

HISTORY *of the* CHURCHES *of the*  
PITTSBURGH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

*By* William Russell Pankey

AMERICAN SERVICE INSTITUTE  
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**HISTORY OF THE CHURCHES  
OF THE PITTSBURGH  
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**



# HISTORY OF THE CHURCHES OF THE PITTSBURGH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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*Pastor, Union Baptist Church  
Pittsburgh, Pa.*

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SEATTLE

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WILLIAM RUSSELL PANKEY  
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*Affectionately Dedicated*  
*to My Parents*  
*John Wesley and Cora Daniel Pankey*  
*Charlotte Court House*  
*Virginia*



## FOREWORD

At the annual meeting of the Pittsburgh Baptist Association, held at the Apollo Church, June 4, 1873, the following resolution was adopted:

*“RESOLVED, that the Rev. Dr. John Winters be requested to write the history of the Baptists of western Pennsylvania, and to have the same published in ‘The National Baptist,’ or in some other permanent form.”*

No trace of such a publication has been found, and we therefore conclude that this noble resolution went the way of the majority of resolutions.

The most outstanding layman who was zealous in collecting and preserving historical data was the late Francis J. Rebbeck. He served for thirty-two years as Clerk and Assistant Clerk of the Pittsburgh Association. Two historical sketches of the churches were published by him in the Association Annals of 1889 and 1899.

A volume entitled, *Centenary of Organized Baptist Work in and about Pittsburgh*, was published by the Pittsburgh Association in 1913. This, however, is not a historical narrative, but merely a com-

pilation of the addresses delivered at the centennial meetings of the First Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, January 30, 31, 1913.

At the annual meeting of the Pittsburgh Association, June 3, 4, 1937, a resolution was adopted authorizing the Reverend William R. Pankey and Mr. Lewis C. Walkinshaw to write and publish a complete history of the churches of the Association, the task to be completed prior to the centennial celebration in June of 1939.

By mutual consent it was agreed that the first section of the book should deal with the general movement and settlement of Baptists in western Pennsylvania, and the second with the histories of the individual Baptist churches in the Pittsburgh Association. Mr. Walkinshaw accepted the responsibility for the first part, while I was given the responsibility for writing the second section.

In the meantime, the sudden and untimely death of Mr. Walkinshaw has made it impossible for his unfinished manuscript to be included in this volume. This is a decided loss. However, it is hoped that the seventy-two historical sketches of the churches contained herein, together with the brief introductory chapter, may be found useful and interesting to all lovers of Baptist history.

April 24, 1939

W. R. P.



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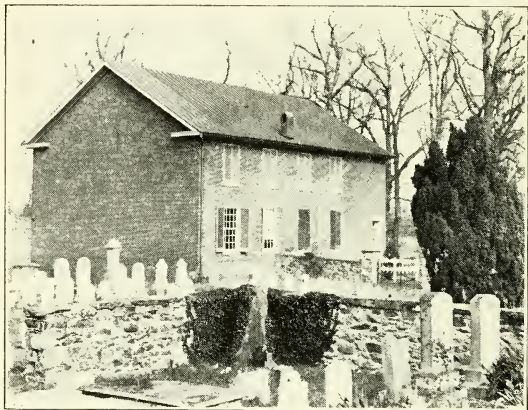
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## BAPTIST BEGINNINGS IN WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

Prior to 1692, the vast territory extending westward from the Allegheny Mountains was inhabited by the native Indians only. In that year the first trader, Arnold Viele, made a journey across the headwaters of the Allegheny River from the Hudson and upper Delaware, and traveled down the Allegheny and Ohio to the Shawnee Indian country. Upon his return he brought a group of Shawnee Indians, who established themselves in a village on the upper Delaware. About the year 1725, they became dissatisfied with the measurement of the "walking purchase" of the Penns and migrated to the Forks of the Ohio, where they established several towns.

Traders from the East soon followed the Indians across the mountains. In quick succession these trails became highways for the pioneering settlers, and the marching military forces that followed. As the military establishments became stronger, affording more protection to these early settlers, the religious foundations were gradually laid. No substantial religious establishments were attempted until 1768, when the Penns made their purchase of

the area west of Laurel Hill and south of the purchase line between Cherry Tree and Kittanning. Prior to that date, western Pennsylvania was the scene of bloody combats between the Indians, the English and the French soldiers.



**Ketocin Baptist Church, Loudoun County, Virginia**

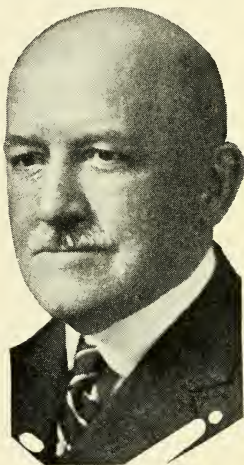
In the parlance of historical genealogy, the Pittsburgh Baptist Association is the great-great-granddaughter of the Philadelphia Baptist Association. The Baptist Associations formed in the colonies were in the following order: Philadelphia (Pennsylvania), 1707; Charleston (South Carolina), 1751; Sandy Creek (North Carolina), 1758; Kehu-

kee (North Carolina), 1765; Ketoctin (Virginia), 1766; Warren (Connecticut), 1767; Stonington (Connecticut), 1772; Redstone (Pennsylvania), 1776; Shaftsbury (New York, Massachusetts, Vermont), 1781; New York, 1791; Baltimore, 1792. The Charleston Association became the progenitor of the Associations to the southward, except Ketoctin. The Ketoctin, Warren and New York Associations were formed from the Philadelphia Baptist Association. The Minutes of the Philadelphia Association for 1764 have the following entry:

*“Concluded to receive the Church at Ketoctin, and the church of Opekon, in Virginia, into the fellowship with this Association.”*

The Ketoctin Baptist Association was formed in 1766, pursuant to the following action taken by the Philadelphia Baptist Association:

*“Agreed that the Churches in Virginia have our leave to form themselves into an Association, pro-*



**J. Henry Stauff**

**Honorary Member of the  
Pittsburgh Baptist Centennial  
Committee**

*vided they go on the same plan, and hold union with us."*

In addition to the Ketoctin Church, Mill Creek Church, Smith's Creek Church and Broad Run Church became constituent members of the Ketoctin Association. By the year 1809, this Association reported thirty-six churches and two thousand members.

About the year 1768 there came into the Redstone country, from New Jersey, the Reverend Henry Croslye (Crosbye) and the Reverend Isaac Sutton. With the assistance of others, these New Jersey preachers organized, in 1770, the Great Bethel Baptist Church, at Beesontown, now Uniontown. This is the oldest church west of the Allegheny Mountains.

The main stream of Baptist life in western Pennsylvania flowed down the Monongahela valley from Virginia. In subsequent years other Baptist streams flowed from the mountaintop at old Beulah, near Ebensburg, and still others from western New York. All of these streams had their source at Philadelphia.

A few years prior to 1770, there began a general movement of pioneer Virginians into the Redstone country. Numbered among these pioneers was the Reverend John Corbly. His missionary activities resulted in the organization of the Goshen, the North

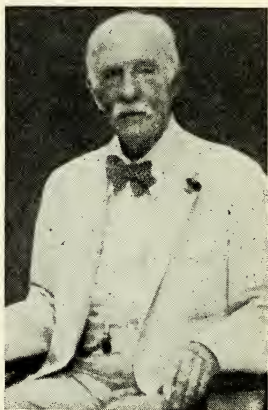


Ten Mile and the Peter's Creek Baptist Churches, in 1773. The Turkey Foot Baptist Church was organized in 1775, and many others followed in quick succession.

The Redstone Baptist Association was organized October 7, 1776, with the following six churches as constituent members: Great Bethel, Goshen, North Ten Mile, Peter's Creek, Pike Run and Turkey Foot.

At the annual meeting of the Redstone Baptist Association, August 31, 1832, Forks of the Yough Church (Salem), Turkey Foot Church (Confluence), and Loyalhanna Church (Saltsburg), were dismissed to form the Monongahela Baptist Association, with the National Turnpike as the boundary line, but with the privilege of any church on either side of that line to change its Associational affiliation whenever it was deemed desirable.

The Pittsburgh Baptist Association was organized in 1839, by a group of churches withdrawing from



**William E. Lincoln**

**Honorary Member of the  
Pittsburgh Baptist Centennial  
Committee**

the Monongahela Baptist Association for that specific purpose. Included among the charter churches constituting the Pittsburgh Association were, Great Bethel, Peter's Creek, and all the then existing churches in the city of Pittsburgh. Today there are seventy-four churches in the Pittsburgh Association, with a total membership of approximately twenty thousand.



Great Bethel Baptist Church, Uniontown, Pa.  
Organized 1770



HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF THE CHURCHES  
*of the*  
PITTSBURGH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION



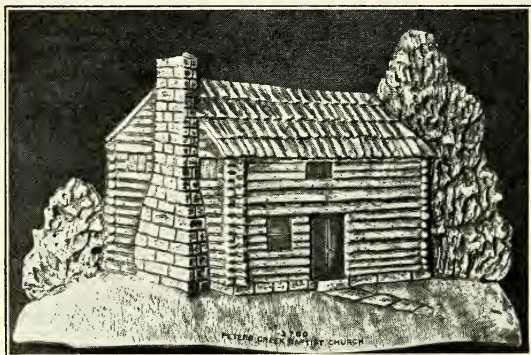
## **PETER'S CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH LIBRARY**

**ORGANIZED 1773**

This historic church is the oldest congregation in the Pittsburgh Baptist Association. The record shows that in 1775 the members met at five different places to hold communion: Laurel Hill, Corse, the church at the forks of the Youghiogheny River, Muddy Creek, and Ten Mile. The first church edifice was probably at the forks of the Youghiogheny River, now McKeesport. A later record indicates that services were conducted in a log house on the farm of Robert Estep—the present site of Venetia.

In 1780, David Phillips came from Chester county, where he had been a member of the Great Valley Baptist Church. He purchased the farm where the Peter's Creek Church is now located, calling it "Ninevah." The organization was at first called "the church upon Peter's creek." According to records in the Washington County Court House, "the trustees of Peter's Creek Baptist church purchased a building site of John Cox, the transfer being made September 10, 1788." This Cox farm was near the present town of Gastonville.

The records of Washington County assert that "Rev. David Phillips was called to preach in April, 1781, and was ordained the following May, and from that date he preached at Elizabethtown, Gaston-



Original Log Building of the Peter's Creek  
Baptist Church, Library, Pa.

Organized in 1773

ville, and Budd's Ferry on the Youghiogheny River, until 1793."

Shortly after 1794 the Gastonville and Elizabethtown churches united in the calling of a pastor, but there is no record of what became of the "Church on the Youghiogheny."

In 1797, a part of the lot, now the site of the Peter's Creek church, was purchased. The first



edifice was a log chapel, which was replaced in 1832 by a brick edifice, at a cost of twelve hundred and fifty dollars. The theological controversy agitated by Alexander Campbell, following 1825, did much to weaken and divide the congregation.

The centennial anniversary of the church was observed November 10, 1873. The third church edifice was erected in 1884, and has been used continuously by the congregation—until the corner-stone of the present new edifice was laid, in 1938.

The following members of the church have entered the Christian ministry: Charles Rigdon, John Rigdon, James Estep, Henry Wade, Joshua Phillips, J. W. Higbee, Sidney Rigdon, Frank Cramer, Frank King, John Erbe, John Lauderbaugh, Kimber Boyer, and Philip B. Boyer. In 1866, Miss Zillah Bunn was baptized in this church, later serving for twenty-five years as a missionary in India.

The first Woman's Missionary Society was organized in the church August 11, 1878; it has had a continuous existence to date. Two of the early Sunday school superintendents were William McNary and Isaac King. Among the early deacons were Joseph Phillips, Joseph Higbee, Charles Dailey, Ephraim Estep, Isaac King, William Benson, John King, Joseph Phillips, Jr., John Maits, John Maits, Jr., Samuel Heath, Peter Boyer, Samuel Boyer, Edward Riggs, and Isaac Phillips.

The Peter's Creek church now seems to be on the

verge of another membership boom, due to the increasing number of families moving into the community. The present membership is 155.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. John Whitaker (1775-1780), Rev. David Phillips (1780-1824), Rev. Charles Wheeler (1824), Rev. John Winter (1825), Rev. Joshua Bradley (1826-1827), Rev. Alexander Campbell (1827-1828), Rev. William Shadrach (1829-1835), Rev. William Penny (1836-1837), Rev. Benoni Allen (1837-1838), Rev. James Estep (1838-1857), Rev. David Williams (1859-1863), Rev. George Seymore (1864-1865), Rev. J. M. Collins (1866-1868), Rev. A. J. Collins (1869-1872), Rev. Henry Llewellyn (1873-1874), Rev. T. J. Briston (1875-1876), Rev. G. Moffat (1876), Rev. A. J. Collins (1877-1878), Rev. J. K. Cramer (1879-1888), Rev. J. S. Hutson (1889-1890), Rev. E. R. Tilton (1890-1894), Rev. H. B. Bond (1895-1896), Rev. J. W. Moody (1897-1898), Rev. W. H. Chapman (1899-1902), Rev. W. E. DeYarnett (1903-1905), Rev. A. J. Furman (1905-1908), Rev. J. T. Davis (1909-1911), Rev. W. E. Ruch (1911-1917), Rev. E. H. Baker (1917-1919), Rev. Paul H. Smith (1920-1923), Rev. Frank Cramer (1923-1930), Rev. J. F. Thiessen (1930-1934), Rev. Arthur F. Purkiss (1934), Rev. James H. Williams (1935—).

## SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH

ORGANIZED 1790



The beginnings of the Salem Baptist Church are not definitely known, but it was in existence by 1790, and was known as Forks of the Yough Church, with the Rev. John Barrachman as pastor. It is

likely that the Peter's Creek church had a part in its organization.

Joseph Budd, one of the early settlers in western Pennsylvania, gave the Salem congregation a tract of land, for a church lot and cemetery. It was on a high hill between the Youghiogheny and Monongahela rivers. The old deed is still preserved. On this lot the first church edifice was erected, in 1792. It was used continuously until the present brick structure was erected in 1842.

Seven Revolutionary soldiers are buried in the old church cemetery: Joseph Budd, Nathaniel Hayden, Nathaniel Hayden, Jr., George Weddle, Daniel Weddle, James Weddle and Peter Weddle.

The Salem church was a member of the Redstone Baptist Association until it withdrew to help form the Monongahela Baptist Association, in 1832. Seven years later it withdrew from the Monongahela Association to help form the Pittsburgh Baptist Association, of which it is a member at the present time.

Nathaniel Tibbets was ordained to preach the gospel on February 11, 1818. By the year 1830, a thriving mission was being conducted at McKeesport. In 1842, sixty-two members were dismissed to form the Elizabeth Baptist church. The same pastor served both churches for a while. The West Newton Mission was organized in 1873. The Mars Hill church was likewise started by the Salem church in 1840.

Due to changing conditions in the community, the Salem church has not grown in membership very rapidly in recent years. A great deal of Americanization work is being carried on by the congregation among the foreign-speaking people. The present membership is very small.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. John Barrachman (1790), Rev. H. Barkley (1792), Rev. J. Shreves (1803), Rev. James Estep (1805), Rev. William Stone (1814), Rev. William Shadrach (1817), Rev. Nathaniel Tibbets (1825), Rev. Isaac Winn (1830), Rev. William Penny (1835), Rev. E. F. Brown (1840), Rev. P. Hornish (1845), Rev. R. R. Sutton (1848), Rev. Samuel Wil-

liams (1851), Rev. J. K. Kramer (1854-1866), Rev. David Williams (1866-1867), Rev. H. Dye (1867), Rev. O. P. Hargrave (1868), Rev. John Washington (1868-1870), Rev. Daniel Webster (1870-1871), Rev. A. Wilson (1871-1873), Rev. W. T. Hughes (1873-1875), Rev. J. A. J. Lightburn (1875-1880), Rev. G. Ford (1882-1887), Rev. A. G. McLean (1887-1888), Rev. W. W. Hickman (1888-1891), Rev. S. A. Smith (1891-1895), Rev. E. R. Bailey (1895-1900), Rev. J. C. Longanecker (1900-1914), Rev. S. J. Cleeland (1914-1916), Rev. W. G. Carl (1916-1917), Rev. H. Snearning (1917-1920), Rev. W. A. Wisinger (1920-1923), Rev. J. Rawlins (1923), Rev. F. Purrier (1923-1930), Rev. H. W. Birch (1930-1937), Rev. E. R. Williams (1937——).



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, PITTSBURGH

ORGANIZED 1812

The First Baptist Church of Pittsburgh was organized in 1812 with twelve constituent members. A ministerial delegation from the Redstone Baptist Association, consisting of Dávid Phillips, Henry Spears and James Fry, assisted in its organization.

For the first eight years of its existence the First Church met "from house to house." A Sunday school was started in 1819. The first meeting-house was a wooden chapel, erected in 1820, and located

on the corner of Third Avenue and Grant Street. Services were conducted in the home of Deacon John P. Skelton, on the south side of the Monongahela, while the edifice was in process of construction.

The First Church was chartered in 1822, with the following charter members: Sidney Rigdon, James Morford, Benjamin Pyatt, William H. Hart, Zebeon Packard, John Robinson, John P. Skelton, A. Sinclair, John Morford, Thomas Parel, Francis Johnson, William Trimble, John White, Robert Douglass, John Curry, M. Evans, Mark Stackhouse, Robert Warnock, Alfred Lloyd, Washington McEwen, James J. Carpenter, Caleb Lee, Eliot S. Neal, Thomas C. Lee, Robert Shepard, Silas Wickes, Richard James, John Hurrell, John Alexander, Jesse Dewees and Frederick Wendt.

In 1833 the original wooden chapel was replaced by a two-story brick edifice costing four thousand dollars. This building was destroyed by fire in 1845. The third edifice was erected on the same site in 1846, at a cost of eight thousand dollars.

From 1812 to 1858 the Monongahela River was the place of baptism. In his letter of reminiscences, written in 1886, the Rev. Samuel Williams says:

*“Between the glass factory and the bridge was our Jordan. I think in nearly every rod from one to the other I have buried candidates in the likeness of my Saviour’s burial and resurrection.”*

The first baptistry was installed in the church in 1858.

In 1865 the church building and lot were sold for ten thousand dollars. A new lot was purchased on the corner of Fourth Avenue and Grant Street, on which a chapel was erected (in 1867), at a cost of forty thousand dollars. In 1876 the main church edifice, fronting on Ross Street, was dedicated.

On March 3, 1873, the Fourth Avenue Baptist Church was constituted by the merger of the First and the Union Baptist Church. The spiritual and numerical strength of the congregation increased rapidly. Among some of the outstanding features of the life of the Fourth Avenue Church were an industrial school; outdoor meetings on the street corners; a city missionary and visiting nurse; a fresh air vacation camp for children; a school of housekeeping; the toy mission, begun in 1894; a Chinese Bible school; a Vacation Bible school, and the department for the deaf.

On September 25, 1909, the Fourth Avenue Baptist Church became by charter the First Baptist Church of Pittsburgh. During the same year the church property was sold to the Commissioners of Allegheny County, for five hundred and sixty thousand dollars. Farewell services were held in the church March 6, 1910. A temporary meeting-place was rented on Neville Street until the new edifice was constructed at the corner of Bellefield Avenue



and Bayard Street. The new Gothic edifice was dedicated April 28, 1912, one hundred years after the organization of the church.

On April 1, 1929, the Oakland Baptist Church merged with the First, and its pastor, the Rev. Lester W. Bumpus, became the associate pastor of the enlarged First. The Oakland church had been organized in 1890. The present membership is 1,136.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. Edmon Jones (1812-1814), Rev. Obadiah Newcomb (1818-1820), Rev. John Davis (1820-1822), Rev. Sidney Rigdon (1822-1823), Rev. John Winter (1823-1824), Rev. Lawrence Greatrake (1824-1825), Rev. Joshua Bradley (1826-1827), Rev. Samuel Williams (1827-1856), Rev. David J. Yerkes (1856-1860), Rev. George S. Chaise (1861-1864), Rev. James S. Dickerson (1865-1870), Rev. Adoniram J. Rowland (1870-1872), Rev. Robert W. Pearson (1873-1879), Rev. John H. Hartman (1879-1881), Rev. Lemuel Call Barnes (1882-1887), Rev. Howard B. Grose (1888-1890), Rev. Henry C. Applegarth (1890-1893), Rev. Lemuel Call Barnes (1893-1902), Rev. Warren G. Partridge (1903-1911), Rev. Frederic Tower Galpin (1912-1921), Rev. Carl Wallace Petty (1922-1932), Rev. Bernard C. Clausen (1933——).

The following ministers have been associate pastors: Rev. W. W. West, Rev. David Boswell, Rev. Theodore Miller and Rev. Lester W. Bumpus.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, WASHINGTON

### ORGANIZED 1814

As an independent organization, the First Baptist Church of Washington was constituted October 14, 1814, with eleven charter members. It had operated as a mission for three years prior to its organization. In 1811, the State Legislature confirmed the title of the church to its lot on Wheeling Street—then known as Belle Street. The first church edifice was erected on this lot in 1819. The second, located on East Wheeling Street, was dedicated, April 23, 1893. The present building, located at the corner of College and West Wheeling Streets, was dedicated June 14, 1931.

From 1815 to 1834, the church was a member of the Redstone Baptist Association. From 1835 to 1857, it was affiliated with the Monongahela Baptist Association. Since 1858 it has been a member of the Pittsburgh Association.

In 1902 the First Baptist Church dismissed fifty-six members by letter to form the Broad Street Baptist Church, Washington. Again, in 1903, twenty-three more members were dismissed to form the Allison Avenue Baptist Church, Washington. In

1904 a missionary chapel was dedicated at Des Caminos, Cuba, as a memorial to Rev. Stephen Drummond. Later in the same year a second chapel was built at Jiguani, Cuba.

The following ministers have served the church: Rev. Charles Wheeler (1814-1838), Rev. B. Davis (1839), Rev. R. Billings (1841-1842), Rev. C. T. Johnson (1842-1843), Rev. J. B. W. Tisdale (1843-1846), Rev. H. Halping (1846), Rev. Thomas Swaim (1846-1850), Rev. George W. Young (1850-1854), Rev. Malachi Taylor (1855-1858), Rev. John Boyd (1858-1859), Rev. H. Adams, Rev. R. Telford (1866-1868), Rev. J. A. Snodgrass (1871-1874), Rev. Mahor C. Blaine (1875-1878), Rev. I. C. Tuttle (1879-1882), Rev. John Brooks (1884), Rev. Stephen Drummond (1884-1888), Rev. Alexander McArthur (1888-1890), Rev. W. S. Wedemeyer (1890-1891), Rev. Stephen Drummond (1892-1902), Rev. Charles W. Fletcher (1902-1912), Rev. M. A. Graybiel (1912-1916), Rev. F. B. Taber (1917-1930), Rev. William M. Kennedy (1931——). The present membership is 796.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, McKEESPORT

ORGANIZED 1820

In 1819, a non-denominational meeting-house was erected in the city of McKeesport on a parcel of ground donated by Mr. John McKee. On June 3, 1820, the Baptist people of the community met and organized a church. The Rev. William Stone was chairman of this organization meeting. The recorded meeting was held on August 5, 1820, at which time it was decided to administer the ordinance of the Lord's Supper quarterly.

The church was admitted into the Pittsburgh Baptist Association April 10, 1841, with a membership of fifty. One year later, the membership had more than doubled. The first edifice was dedicated December 25, 1868. In 1887 the West Side Mission was established. The present church edifice was dedicated June 19, 1904. It is located on the corner of Olive and Locust Streets. Rev. Calvin F. Hamilton and Miss Edna Oden have gone out from the church into Christian service. The present membership is 908.

The following ministers have served the church (the list of those prior to 1870 is unavailable):

Rev. William McKinney (1870-1875), Rev. William Codville (1876-1891), Rev. J. A. Maxwell (1896-1906), Rev. A. A. DeLarme (1906-1916), Rev. Edward Babcock (1916-1920), Rev. James Braker (1920-1924), Rev. P. H. Lynch (1924-1936), Rev. Arthur B. Strickland (1936-1939).

## SALTSBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

ORGANIZED 1828

This congregation had its beginning in the old Loyalhanna Baptist Church, in 1828. Prior to that date meetings had for several years been held in the homes of the people under the leadership of Andrew Johnston (1726-1815), Baptist pioneer. The organization meeting was held in the town of Saltsburg, November 29, 1828, with Rev. James Frey, pastor of the Big Redstone church (Smock), Rev. James Estep, pastor of Forks of Yough church (Salem), and Rev. John Thomas, pastor of the Two Lick Baptist church (Dixonville), as the organizing delegates from the Redstone Baptist Association.

A beautiful pool at the Perry-Kirkpatrick-Snodgrass mill, half a mile away, was the church's convenient baptistry through the years. As the membership increased and scattered over a larger area, a second house of worship was erected in Saltsburg, in 1853. The two preaching stations were maintained for a number of years. The church in the town of Saltsburg soon became predominant, and assumed the name of the Saltsburg Baptist Church,

which it has retained to the present time. The country congregation of Loyalhanna gradually disintegrated. When their building was razed in 1929, a large marker was constructed from the foundation stones, and a title slab was dedicated October 26, 1930, in the presence of four hundred people. The chief addresses were delivered by Rev. Raymond G. Pierson and Mr. Lewis C. Walkinshaw.

September 1, 1832, the Loyalhanna church and Forks of Yough and Turkeyfoot (Ursina), were dismissed from the Redstone Baptist Association to form the Monongahela Association. The church was received into the Pittsburgh Baptist Association, October 12, 1844. In 1847 it entertained the Association. In 1882 the church was dismissed from the Pittsburgh Association to join the Indiana Association, but returned to the Pittsburgh Association in 1892. The congregation still worships in the old church building erected in 1853—but made modernly beautiful by remodeling within recent years. A continuous church life has been sustained since 1828. The present membership is 121.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. William Shadrach (1829-1835), Rev. Benoni Allen (1836-1839), Rev. Isaac Wynn, Rev. John Parker, Rev. Milton Sutton, Rev. John P. Rockefeller, Rev. Caleb Rossell, Rev. Edwin M. Miles, Rev. Peter M. Weddle (1849-1852), Rev. Thomas J. Penny (1852-1855), Rev. D. W. Hunter (1855-

1857), Rev. J. R. Morris (1858), Rev. W. T. Johnston (1859-1862), Rev. Samuel Furman (1862-1864), Rev. A. H. Taylor (1864-1866), Rev. Azariah Shadrach (1867-1875), Rev. George W. Baker (1875-1876), Rev. John Burke (1876-1879), Rev. E. C. Baird (1879-1880), Rev. D. W. Swigart (1881-1882), Rev. A. B. Runyon (1892-1895), Rev. W. H. I. Kirkendall (1895-1897), Rev. L. D. Bass (1897-1898), Rev. Clement Tomlin (1898-1900), Rev. Howard I. Stewart (1901-1902), Rev. Herbert Grimwood (1903-1905), Rev. John Krumm (1906-1909), Rev. A. J. Bowser (1910-1913), Rev. C. W. Mitchell (1914), Rev. John E. Arblaster (1916), Rev. W. P. Wheeler (1920-1921), Rev. L. L. Bradley (1922-1924), Rev. Lloyd S. Erb (1926-1929), Rev. Albert G. Mason (1929-1931), Rev. David Thompson (1932——).



## **FREEPORT BAPTIST CHURCH**

**ORGANIZED 1830**

The Freeport Baptist Church, in Armstrong County, was organized December 11, 1830, with thirty charter members. The first services were held in Painter's Hotel. Evangelistic meetings were conducted by Rev. William Shadrach and Rev. George I. Miles, resulting in the baptism of twenty-one persons. Nine members of the Forks of Yough church (Salem), including Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lowry and Samuel Logan, were chiefly instrumental in the organization of the church.

The first edifice was a modest wooden chapel, erected on Fourth Avenue in 1834. The present brick edifice was erected in 1847. It has a one-hundred foot spire. The Freeport church was affiliated with the Monongahela Baptist Association until 1842, at which time it became a member of the Pittsburgh Association. The present membership is forty-six. In 1875 the Freeport church assisted in organizing the Leechburg Baptist church, and in 1890 the Tarentum Baptist church. The Rev. Sidney V. Hollingworth, missionary in Burma, went out from the Freeport church.

The following ministers have served the church:

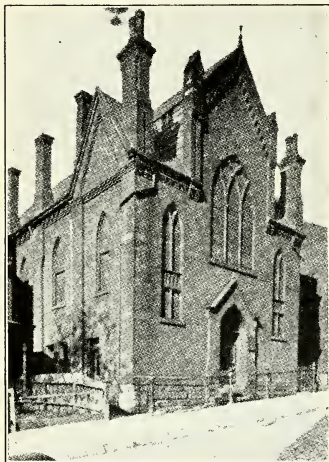
Rev. John Thomas (1832-1834), Rev. William Penny (1835-1836), Rev. Thomas R. Thomas (1836-1839), Rev. Jonas A. Davis (1839), Rev. Edward Miles (1839), Rev. William Shadrach, Rev. George I. Miles, Rev. Samuel Miles, Rev. W. Bingham, Rev. Thomas Williamson, Rev. J. R. Rockefeller, Rev. James Estep, Rev. A. W. Barns (1850), Rev. Peter Weddell (1851-1852), Rev. T. J. Penny (1852-1853), Rev. L. L. Still (1854-1855), Rev. D. W. C. Harvey (1856-1862), Rev. J. G. Penny (1862-1865), Rev. David Williams (1866-1868), Rev. J. E. Dean (1868-1875), Rev. J. P. Jones (1875-1876), Rev. T. H. Jones (1876-1877), Rev. J. W. Ewing (1877-1878), Rev. S. Drummond (1881-1884), Rev. J. W. Neyman (1884-1885), Rev. W. B. Skinner (1886-1889), Rev. John Owens (1889-1892), Rev. W. H. Collins (1893-1894), Rev. Lewis Llewellyn (1894-1899), Rev. L. E. Miller (1899-1900), Rev. George E. Lee (1901-1902), Rev. W. G. Carl (1902-1903), Rev. W. S. Holland (1904-1905), Rev. J. Thomas Davis (1905-1907), Rev. Gilbert W. Schmit (1907-1909), Rev. S. J. Cunnings (1909), Rev. W. A. Wisinger (1910-1913), Rev. A. J. Meek (1913-1916), Rev. W. K. Morgan (1916-1917), Rev. Wallace Mitchell (1917-1920), Rev. W. E. Robson (1921-1922), Rev. S. J. Cuning (1922-1923), Rev. S. M. Smith (1924-1925), Rev. F. M. Quell (1926-1929), Rev. David Thomson (1930-1932), Rev. T. M. Den-

ning (1933-1934), Rev. L. S. Hoyle (1934-1936), Rev. Kenneth C. Coggon (1937——).

The following persons have been licensed to preach the gospel by the Freeport church: Frederick Weiman, A. W. Barns, Charles L. Reynolds, Johnathan Snively, John Rowley and David L. Llewellyn.

## CHATHAM STREET WELSH BAPTIST CHURCH, PITTSBURGH

ORGANIZED 1834



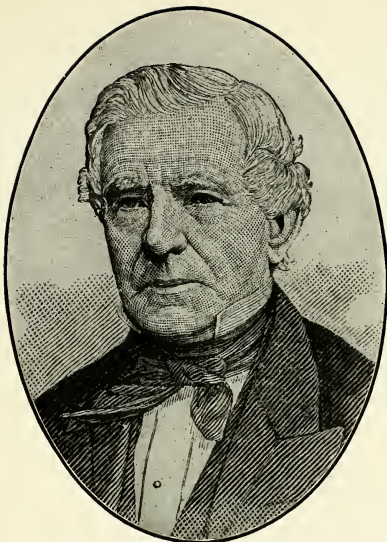
The Chatham Street Welsh Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, was organized in 1834. The first structure was a wooden chapel, erected in 1839. The present brick and stone building was erected in 1881. The membership is now small.

The property of the church has been acquired within recent years by the First Pittsburgh Church,

and is to be held perpetually for religious use. The First Church likewise sustains the Chatham Street Welsh Baptist Church financially.

The following have been the ministers:

Rev. William Owens (1834-1874), Rev. Rhoslyn Davies (1874-1894), Rev. R. C. Morgan (1895-1915). The present pastor is Rev. Griff Thomas.



Rev. William Shadrach, D.D.

**SANDUSKY STREET BAPTIST  
CHURCH, PITTSBURGH**

**ORGANIZED 1835**

The Sandusky Street Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, originated in a series of cottage prayer-meetings. The organization took place March 7, 1835, in the edifice of the Methodist Protestant Church, Union

Avenue, and with fifteen constituent members, who had been dismissed by letter from the First Baptist Church. The original corporate name of the organization was "The First Baptist Church of Allegheny," and it was located on Robinson Street. The first edifice was a wooden chapel, erected in 1835. John Wright was the first deacon, the first clerk, the first treasurer, the first chorister and the first Sunday school superintendent!

The second church edifice was erected in 1844, and was located on Sandusky Street. By 1865 all building debts had been paid. In 1857 the church withdrew from the Monongahela Baptist Association and became a member of the Pittsburgh Association. In 1867 the congregation helped organize the Nixon Street Baptist Church. In 1871, another mission Sunday school was organized on Howard Street. The third and present church edifice was dedicated, November 19, 1893. In 1907 the charter name of the church was changed to "The Sandusky Street Baptist Church."

Ministers who have gone out from the church include, Rev. J. Smith Gillespie, Rev. B. F. Woodburn, Rev. M. B. Sloan, Rev. J. A. Snodgrass, Rev. Aaron Wilson, Rev. T. H. Chapman and Rev. Henry Gellart. Others who have gone into Christian service include, Miss Zillah A. Bunn and Miss Agnes Whitehead.

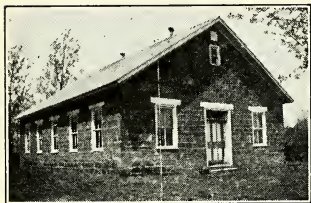
The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. William Shadrach (1835-1838), Rev. John E. Thomas (1838-1842), Rev. N. G. Collins (1843-1845), Rev. H. Silliman (1845-1846), Rev. Joseph Walker (1847-1849), Rev. Joseph B. Breed (1849-1850), Rev. J. R. Downer (1850-1853), Rev. T. R. Taylor (1853-1857), Rev. Isaac Sawyer (1858-1859), Rev. A. K. Bell (1859-1870), Rev. B. F. Woodburn (1870-1905), Rev. A. J. Bonsall (1906-1925), Rev. Joseph R. Allen (1925-1930), Rev. Charles S. Dayton (1930-1937), Rev. Edwin L. Kautz (1937——). The present membership is 407.

The assistant pastors include Rev. Joseph N. Williams (1900-1901), Rev. William W. Barker (1902-1903), Rev. A. J. Bonsall (1904-1906), Rev. Charles E. Stanton (1921-1925).

## BIG SEWICKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH NEW STANTON

ORGANIZED 1839



Nineteen members of the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church were dismissed by letter, April 14, 1839, for the purpose of organizing the Big Sewickley Baptist Church, New Stanton.

A copy of the original Church Covenant is still retained in the church records. Each of these nineteen charter members signed the Covenant individually. Any member refusing to abide by the requirements of the Covenant was to be forthwith disciplined by the congregation. The church entertained the Pittsburgh Association in 1844.

The Old Stone Church, now known as the Big Sewickley Baptist Church, was erected and dedicated in 1844. For the next forty years it carried on an aggressive program. Eventually the membership dwindled, due somewhat to shifting currents of population, and the church became inactive. On



October 18, 1902, it was re-organized through the efforts of a small group of loyal Baptists of the community. The re-organization meeting was presided over by Rev. William W. West, while Lewis C. Walkinshaw, of Greensburg, acted as clerk. The present membership is fifty.

The following ministers have served the church:

Elder Simon Siegfried (1842-1843), Elder A. J. Eberhart (1844-1847), Elder H. D. Kline, Rev. L. G. Moreland, Rev. Richard Sutton, Rev. Job Bosswell, Rev. H. Knox, Rev. J. Wood, Rev. Elijah Bailey, Rev. A. J. Bassford, Rev. William J. Coulston, Rev. A. J. Meek, Rev. William W. West, Rev. David A. Solly, Rev. Henry J. Whalen, Rev. George Downing, Rev. S. Smith, Rev. George W. Bailey, Rev. Noah Fehl, Rev. C. C. Collins, Rev. A. J. McIndoe, Rev. J. Hartman, Rev. Lawrence R. Neff, Rev. Thomas F. Wright, Rev. M. T. Hulihan (1936-——).

## MARS HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

ORGANIZED 1840

The Mars Hill Baptist Church was organized in 1840 by the Rev. J. P. Rockefeller as the Little Sewickley Baptist Church. The Big Sewickley Baptist Church had been organized by the same preacher in 1839. The two churches were located approximately ten miles apart, close to the respective streams bearing the same names. Before coming into the Pittsburgh Association, the church changed its name to that of Mars Hill.

The Westmoreland County records show a deed, dated February 8, 1840, from John Tillbrook and wife to Philip Fisher, Thomas Copeland and John Dinsmore, trustees of the Mars Hill Meeting House, "for the use of all Christian denominations." The only other congregation ever to use the building was the Mars Hill United Brethren Church. When this congregation moved to Herminie, the Baptists erected their present edifice two miles to the westward.

The following ministers have served this old country church:

Rev. J. P. Rockefeller (1840-1842), Rev. A. G. Eberhart (1843-1845), Rev. S. D. Morris (1846), Rev. John Scott (1847), Rev. S. D. Morris (1848), Rev. R. E. Sutton (1849-1850), Rev. Jacob Rossell (1853-1855), Rev. G. Lanham (1855-1857), Rev. J. N. Laughlin (1858), Rev. O. P. Hargrave (1861-1868), Rev. Daniel Webster (1870-1871), Rev. R. C. Morgan (1872), Rev. O. P. Hargrave (1873-1887), Rev. A. G. McLean (1887-1888), Rev. C. A. Gardner (1888-1891), Rev. L. M. Jaco (1895), Rev. Frank W. Cramer (1896-1897), Rev. W. Oscar Henderson (1898-1899), Rev. M. E. Hare (1901-1903), Rev. A. J. King (1904-1906), Rev. T. E. Boord (1906-1909), Rev. R. N. Toms (1911-1912), Rev. Robert M. Wilfong (1913-1914), Rev. W. H. Hamilton (1915-1917), Rev. T. E. Boord (1918-1919), Rev. W. H. Hamilton (1920), Rev. D. E. Ewig (1921-1922), Rev. A. E. Douglass (1922-1923), Rev. W. H. Birch (1935-1937), Rev. W. K. McCulloch (1938—).

## ELIZABETH BAPTIST CHURCH

### ORGANIZED 1842

The Baptist church at Elizabeth was organized with sixty-eight charter members, September 17, 1842. Prior to that date, the Baptist church at Salem had assisted in organizing the Baptist work in Elizabeth by sending their pastor, Rev. James Estep, to preach—as early as 1837. Taking part in the organization services were Rev. James Estep, Rev. Samuel Williams and Rev. William Penny.

The first meeting house was a frame structure, erected in 1833, and located in the lower end of the village. In 1863 the congregation purchased a house of worship from the Cumberland Presbyterians. The Elizabeth church was a member of the Pittsburgh Association from 1842 until 1853, at which time it became affiliated with the Monongahela Baptist Association. In 1859 the church severed its connection with the Monongahela Association and did not again affiliate itself with any Baptist Association until 1864, when it came back into the fellowship of the Pittsburgh Association. The church suffered greatly during the War Between the States. The present membership is 348.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. James Estep (1842), Rev. Isaac Wynn (1843-1844), Rev. Milton Sutton (1844-1847), Rev. J. K. Hornish (1847-1849), Rev. S. W. Fojambe (1850-1861), Rev. R. Sutton (1861-1863), Rev. William Whitehead (1863-1867), Rev. J. K. Cramer (1867-1878), Rev. John Burke (1879-1881), Rev. J. W. Scott (1883-1884), Rev. I. C. Tuttle (1885-1886), Rev. A. B. Whitney (1887-1889), Rev. J. K. Cramer (second pastorate 1889-1896), Rev. Charles B. Smith (1896-1897), Rev. W. J. Coulston (1898-1900), Rev. Clement Hall (1900-1902), Rev. Z. Clark Marten (1902-1906), Rev. J. W. Hays (1907-1909), Rev. John A. Erbe (1909-1914), Rev. D. M. Lenox (1914-1920), Rev. Eugene Neubauer (1921-1924), Rev. Edwin O. Colbeck (1925-1927), Rev. Arthur Brubaker (1927-1936), Rev. M. G. Dickinson (1936—).

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, BELLE VERNON

### ORGANIZED 1843

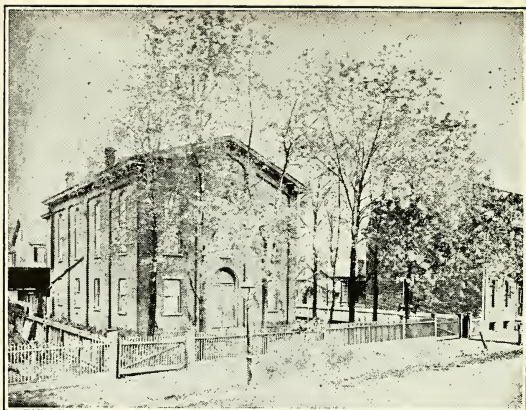
This church was organized April 22, 1843, as the Freewill Baptist Church, Belle Vernon, and with sixteen constituent members. The first edifice was a wooden chapel, which was built in 1844, the dedicatory sermon being preached by the Rev. Joshua Newbald. The second building was dedicated, April 21, 1872, the sermon being preached by the Rev. James Calder, of Harrisburg. This building was destroyed by fire, July 19, 1894. The present edifice was dedicated, November 25, 1895, the sermon being preached by the Rev. J. W. Parsons, of Cleveland, Ohio.

In 1912 the church became a member of the Pittsburgh Baptist Association. The parsonage was erected in 1909. The present membership is 190.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. Joshua Newbald, Rev. Jordan Nye, Rev. Edward Jordan, Rev. Charles B. Eagan, Rev. David S. Smutz, Rev. Patrick Reardon, Rev. J. W. Plannett, Rev. H. Cook, Rev. L. Blakeley, Rev. J. M. Springer, Rev. A. F. Briant, Rev. G. W. Knapp, Rev. Wellington Joy, Rev. John Rogers, Rev. J. W.

Hills, Rev. B. H. Fish, Rev. Joel Baker (1883-1896), Rev. E. E. Cartwright (1896-1897), Rev. Joseph Kelley (1898-1899), Rev. John T. Clow (1899-1901), Rev. James W. Williams (1902-1903), Rev. Alvin Sheppard (1903-1904), Rev. Clarence D. Allen (1904-1908), Rev. William S. Dudley (1908-1910), Rev. J. A. Shaw (1910-1911), Rev. William Adams (1912-1914), Rev. G. W. Kershmer (1914-1916), Rev. Henry Madtes (1917-1928), Rev. Walter K. McCulloch (1928-1937), Rev. Percy E. Mundy (1938——).



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, SHARPSBURG

ORGANIZED 1843

This church was organized as a mission of the First Pittsburgh Church, September 30, 1843. Shortly thereafter a building was erected on Walnut Street, Etna. It took only six weeks to construct this modest building. In the meantime, Rev. S. Severance and Rev. T. White carried on a great deal of missionary work in the homes of the people.

The present name of the church was adopted in 1859, and the following year the present building was erected in Sharpsburg. The members of the



congregation assisted in the digging of the foundation. John Williams was the first candidate for baptism. The first delegate to the Pittsburgh Association was William Planet. Rev. S. White gave pastoral oversight to the congregation from time to time. Charles Clowes served as clerk for over forty years.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. J. T. Lewis, Rev. Samuel Drummond, Rev. Aleck McArthur, Rev. D. E. Richards, Rev. J. T. Enterline, Rev. Henry Madtes, Rev. T. J. Edwards, Rev. B. F. Fisher, Rev. Stewart M. Smith.

The following persons have served as Sunday school superintendents: C. C. Smith, Edward Gibson, Waldo Hunter, Samuel Seeman, Richard Arnold, William Verner, W. C. Smith. Those who have served the church as clerk include Joseph Ingram, Benjamin Jeremiah, Samuel Dawkins, W. J. Davis, B. J. Crowther, Arthur Weston, Andrew Yerkins, J. T. Austen, M. P. Jones. Those who have served as trustees include Thomas Shedden, Joseph Arnold, R. H. Camp, W. S. Dinsmore, Joseph Gilbert, Harlan Hunter, Campbell Stanton, D. D. Davis, Thomas Brankley, Frank Herman.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, MONONGAHELA

### ORGANIZED 1860

The First Baptist Church, Monongahela, was organized in the auditorium of the public school, February 9, 1860, with twenty-four charter members. The Pittsburgh Baptist Association admitted the church to membership the following June.

The present church edifice was dedicated in 1871. Through the heroic sacrifices of Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Bentley, the church was able to make progress in the face of many difficulties. At a later date the interior of the sanctuary was remodeled by the addition of a balcony. The parsonage was erected in 1900. The educational unit of the building which provides space for thirty-one Sunday school classes, was erected in 1911. The membership is now 358.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. O. P. Hargrave, Rev. David Williams, Rev. R. R. Sutton, Rev. Aaron Wilson, Rev. Lloyd Morgan, Rev. A. J. King, Rev. E. C. Baird, Rev. J. F. Collins, Rev. L. S. Colburn, Rev. C. S. Mulhern, Rev. J. W. Moody, Rev. S. V. Marsh, Rev. J. E. Darby, Rev. E. H. Stewart, Rev. Daniel Trick, Rev. W. H. Shawger, Rev. W. G. Carl, Rev. A. M. Gregg, Rev. Havard Griffith, Rev. E. L. Hamilton, Rev. A. C. King, Rev. Carl K. Boyer.



## TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH, PITTSBURGH

ORGANIZED 1862

In 1852, seven German Baptists arrived in Pittsburgh from Cassel, Germany. Settling in the south side district, they prevailed upon the Rev. S. Sala to preach to them for a period of one year. By 1858, the group had increased in numbers, but they then united with the Union Baptist Church, considering themselves as the German department of that church. On December 25, 1862, this group organized themselves into the German Baptist Church. The first house of worship was dedicated May 14, 1865. The parsonage was erected in 1871.

The church was enlarged in 1872. The second edifice was dedicated in 1887.

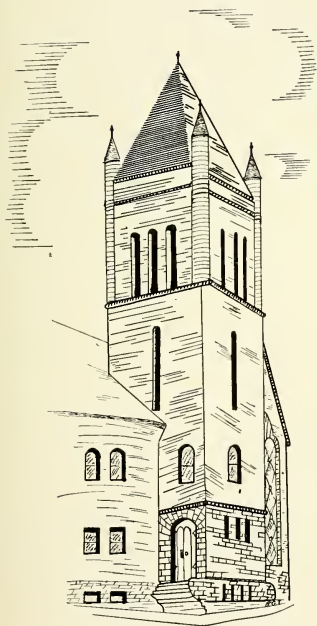
Mission work was carried on in Jeannette, New Kensington, Knoxville, Carrick and Allegheny. Work was also done among the Hungarians and Slavs. In 1904 a Sunday school was started in the home of Louis Staude, in Carrick. In 1906, a chapel was erected on Phillips Avenue, Carrick. In 1907 the church dismissed, by letter, a hundred members who were to organize a Hungarian-Slovak Baptist church. In 1916 the congregation sold its church building on Nineteenth Street, South Side, and on February 5, 1919, dedicated its new house of worship, Brownsville Road and Onyx Avenue, Mount Oliver. In 1918 the name was changed from "First German Baptist Church" to "Temple Baptist Church." The present membership is 464.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. Reinhard Otto (1866-1869), Rev. E. J. Deckmann (1870-1872), Rev. F. W. Schælicke (1873-1874), Rev. William Paul (1875-1876), Rev. Heinrich Kose (1876-1878), Rev. L. G. Hilmer (1879-1880), Rev. E. J. Deckmann (1881-1887), Rev. L. H. Donner (1887-1897), Rev. H. C. Gleiss (1889-1906), Rev. Samuel Blum (1907-1909), Rev. Henry Schulz (1909-1913), Rev. A. P. Mihm (1914-1921), Rev. A. A. Schade (1922-1928), Rev. O. E. Krueger (1929-1935), Rev. Theodore Koester (1935-1936), Rev. Louis B. Holzer (1937——).

## BETH EDEN BAPTIST CHURCH PITTSBURGH

ORGANIZED 1867



Religious services for Baptists residing in the lower Manchester and Woods Run districts were conducted for some time in the homes of the people. In 1867 the Rev. A. K. Bell and three members of the Sandusky Street Baptist Church were instrumental in starting a Baptist church on Nixon Street.

The corner-stone of the new Beth Eden church—located on the corner of Chateau and Juniata Streets—was laid May 16, 1903. The first service was con-

ducted in the basement the following Thanksgiving Day. The dedicatory services were held May 8, 1904. The mortgage was burned in 1910.

Twenty-eight members were dismissed in 1892 for the purpose of organizing the Emmanuel Baptist Church, Pittsburgh. Again, in 1898, the church dismissed others who became charter members of the Bellevue Baptist church. The present membership is 105.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. A. G. Kirk (1867-1869), Rev. J. Perry Hall (1870-1871), Rev. George Bowman (1872-1881), Rev. I. C. Tuttle (1882-1884), Rev. John Brooks (1885-1889), Rev. J. S. Hutson (1890-1906), Rev. A. A. Hobson (1906-1910), Rev. J. E. Darby (1911-1918), Rev. E. W. Rumsey (1918-1923), Rev. H. E. Hatchman (1923-1930), Rev. R. G. Taylor (1933-1935). The Beth Eden church has not had a regular pastor since 1935.



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, CARNEGIE**  
**ORGANIZED 1868**

The First Baptist Church, Carnegie, was organized with seven charter members, July 5, 1868, and was admitted to membership in the Pittsburgh Baptist Association the same year. The first regular place of worship was the old United Presbyterian church building on Academy Street. At a later date, services were conducted in the Odd Fellows Hall, and until the first church edifice was erected on the

corner of Washington Avenue and Academy Street. The present edifice, located on the corner of Robert and School Streets, was dedicated June 4, 1894. The membership at the present time is 270.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. J. A. Snodgrass (1868-1869), Rev. J. A. Simpson (1869-1877), Rev. J. Burke (1879-1880), Rev. J. M. Ray (1882-1885), Rev. D. E. Richards (1888-1889), Rev. R. E. Williams (1889-1899), Rev. G. H. Trapp (1900-1901), Rev. J. A. Snodgrass (1901-1916), Rev. J. C. Walker (1916-1917), Rev. J. S. Jewell (1918-1922), Rev. J. T. Davis (1922-1924), Rev. Ira F. Freeman (1924-1925), Rev. L. B. Wilkinson (1925-1927), Rev. A. B. Taylor (1928-1935), Rev. E. F. Pruden (1936——).



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, APOLLO

ORGANIZED 1868



The First Baptist Church, Apollo, was organized and admitted to the Pittsburgh Baptist Association in 1868. The constituent members were Mr. and Mrs. William Rogers, Sr., Hugh Evans, Mr. and Mrs. William Foale,

George Kerr, Martin Kirkland, Mrs. William Henery and John Morgan.

In 1873 the firm of Rogers and Burchfield donated a plot of ground, upon which a modest brick chapel was erected—and dedicated free of debt. The congregation increased until it became necessary to erect a new edifice, which was dedicated in 1896. The church was greatly damaged by the high flood waters in 1936—the water rose to a height of fourteen feet in the sanctuary! On April 11, 1937, after extensive repairs had been completed, the church was rededi-

cated. The mortgage was burned September 26, 1937. The present membership is 175.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. A. B. Runyan (1868-1870), Rev. John Winters (1871), Rev. A. J. Bonsall (1872), Rev. James Hunter (1873), Rev. Lloyd Morgan (1874-1883), Rev. T. H. Chapman (1884), Rev. J. J. Parsons (1885-1888), Rev. W. B. Skinner (1890), Rev. J. S. Young (1893), Rev. Alfred Cauldwell (1894), Rev. G. T. Thompson (1895-1900), Rev. R. Rock (1901), Rev. W. Conner (1902), Rev. W. P. Pearce (1903), Rev. H. R. Baker (1904), Rev. W. E. Ruch (1905), Rev. G. W. Tupper (1907), Rev. W. A. Rupert (1910), Rev. W. S. Carson (1912), Rev. L. B. Ford (1914-1920), Rev. L. B. Jones (1921), Rev. A. McAllister (1922), Rev. R. Austin (1924), Rev. W. Young (1930-1935), Rev. James Cameron (1937—).

## BANKSVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

ORGANIZED 1870

The Banksville Baptist Church was originally organized, in 1870, as the Welsh Baptist Church by Welsh families bringing their church letters from Wales and from the Chatham Street Baptist Church, Pittsburgh. In 1884 a division in the membership resulted in the organization of the Beechview Christian church.

Services were conducted in the Welsh tongue for years. Many members of this congregation have moved to other communities and have naturally become affiliated with other Baptist churches. The church has suffered greatly in this manner. The members of this church were instrumental in assisting in the organization of the Mount Lebanon Baptist Church, Dormont.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. John Thomas (1870-1875), Rev. Isaac Banks (1875-1883), Rev. John Page (1890-1900), Mr. James Page (1900-1920). The church has not had a pastor within recent years. A Sunday school is, however, conducted every Sunday.



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, GREENSBURG

ORGANIZED 1873

The First Baptist church, Greensburg, was organized April 5, 1873, the majority of its charter members coming by letter from the Big Sewickley Baptist Church, six miles south of Greensburg. The church was the direct outgrowth of a Bible school, organized in 1863. The formal organization of the congregation took place in Park's Hall, Hamilton

and West Otterman Streets, Ludwick Borough—now the Sixth Ward of the city of Greensburg.

The first edifice was a wooden chapel, which was occupied from 1874 to 1892. The present brick edifice, Third Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, was erected and dedicated in 1896. It was remodeled in 1929. Since 1873, the congregation has grown from a constituent membership of twenty-five to its present membership of 566.

The following persons have gone out from the Greensburg church into definite Christian service: Rev. Frank W. Crawford, Rev. W. A. Wissinger, Dr. J. R. Bailey, Rev. H. S. Bickel, Mrs. Anna McClure Bailey, Mrs. Lena Tillmann Case, Rev. Harry White and Rev. M. T. Hulihan.

The following pastors have served the church:

Rev. R. C. Morgan (1873), Rev. O. P. Hargrave (1874-1892), Rev. A. J. Meek (1892-1899), Rev. William J. Coulston (1900-1904), Rev. William Ward West (1904-1911), Rev. David A. Solly (1911-1915), Rev. Henry J. Whalen (1916-1927), Rev. Roger H. Williams (1927——).

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, SEWICKLEY

### ORGANIZED 1873

The First Baptist church, Sewickley, was organized in Mozart Hall, Sewickley, April 27, 1873, with twenty-five charter members. Rev. B. F. Woodburn, pastor of the Sandusky Street Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, preached the sermon. A complete communion service set was presented to the church by W. C. Cooper, who was a member of the Sandusky Street church.

Shortly after 1878, the church decided to disband. The lot that had been purchased was sold and the pulpit furniture and organ given to the First Baptist church, Braddock. In 1888 the church became active again and cooperated with the Fair Oaks Baptist Church in the calling of a pastor to serve both churches. Plans for a church building were started in 1888. The dedicatory service took place, June 2, 1889. The recorded baptismal service was January 12, 1890, when five candidates followed their Lord in baptism. The present membership is eighty-five.

The following ministers have served the church:  
Rev. J. E. Craig (1873-1878), Rev. John M. Scott

(1888-1891), Rev. John Moody (1891-1896), Rev. William H. McKinney (1897-1902), Rev. Charles McFall (1902-1903), Rev. H. B. Rankin (1903-1907), Rev. A. M. Stewart (1908-1909), Rev. Herbert Agate (1909-1917), Rev. H. S. Jones (1918-1920), Rev. J. S. Stone (1920-1931), Rev. W. H. F. Jones (1931-1933), Rev. James G. Williams (1933-1936), Rev. H. C. Bartholomew (1936——).

## MIDWAY BAPTIST CHURCH

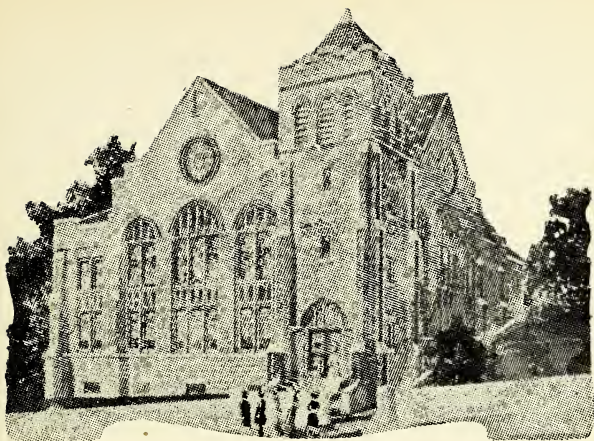
ORGANIZED 1873

The Midway Baptist church, Midway, located half-way between Pittsburgh and Steubenville, Ohio, was organized in the Panhandle Baptist Association in 1873. In 1888 the church became a member of the Pittsburgh Baptist Association. The present membership is fifty-nine.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. John Moses (1889-1892), Rev. A. J. King (1894-1901), Rev. D. Percy French (1902-1905), Rev. T. B. Marlin (1906-1915), Rev. C. F. Hamilton (1916), Rev. W. H. Perham (1917-1918), Rev. J. R. Rutledge (1919-1921), Rev. G. W. Scarberry (1922-1923), Rev. A. M. Gibson (1924), Rev. S. L. Cobb (1925-1929), Rev. J. Howard Hanson (1930-1931), Rev. John McEwan (1934), Rev. C. A. Biles (1936—).





## MOUNT WASHINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH PITTSBURGH

ORGANIZED 1874

Under the leadership of William T. Brown, a community Sunday school was organized on Mount Washington in 1871. Three years later, May 19, 1874, the Mount Washington Baptist Church was organized, with nineteen constituent members. The following month the church was admitted to membership in the Pittsburgh Baptist Association with twenty-nine members. Services were conducted in

the public school building in 1874, and in the basement of the Grace Episcopal Church in 1875.

In 1875 a lot was purchased on Sycamore Street, and a one-story red brick building was erected. The interest rate on the mortgage was ten percent per annum. The present church edifice was dedicated March 21, 1909. Rev. S. G. Neil, Philadelphia, preached the dedicatory sermon. The mortgage was burned in 1919. The parsonage was erected in 1925.

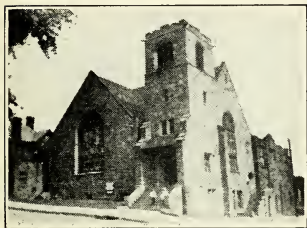
Among the members who have entered Christian service from the church are Rev. and Mrs. Newberry B. Cox, Rev. Charles Mills, Miss Agnes Houston and Miss Mary Vitchestain. The present membership is four hundred.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. G. J. Brensinger (1874), Rev. William H. McKinney (1875-1877), Rev. Malcolm C. Blaine (1878-1880), Rev. David Macrory (1880-1887), Rev. George T. Street (1888-1898), Rev. P. F. DeLancy (1898-1902), Rev. J. C. Wilkinson (1902), Rev. William R. Warren (1902-1904), Rev. Emerson L. Swift (1904-1908), Rev. George T. Street (1908-1911), Rev. G. K. O'Donnell (1911-1914), Rev. W. I. Coburn (1915-1916), Rev. M. R. Japhet (1917-1919), Rev. Charles Embrey (1920-1925), Rev. H. E. Shade (1925), Rev. Samuel R. Parrett (1927), Rev. Richard G. Stacy (1927-1936), Rev. P. H. Lynch (1936——).

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, ROCHESTER

ORGANIZED 1874



Ten persons met for prayer in the home of W. S. Shallenberger, August 3, 1873. This resulted in the organization of a Bible school the following month in Conway's Hall, with

Mr. H. C. Fry as superintendent and W. S. Shallenberger as teacher. Two months later the Bible school was removed to the Town Hall. On February 4, 1874, a group of twenty-seven persons met at the Town Hall and voted to organize themselves into the First Baptist Church of Rochester. At a business meeting two months later, the first church officers were elected.

The church became a member of the Pittsburgh Baptist Association, June 10, 1874. At that time it had a membership of sixty-nine. The first church edifice was erected in 1875, on the corner of Vermont Avenue and Adams Street, the plot of ground having been donated by Gilbert Pendleton, Sr. The

Sunday school unit of the building was constructed in 1913. The present church edifice was dedicated May 6, 1917. The fiftieth anniversary was celebrated in 1924. The present membership is 565.

Four members of the congregation have entered Christian service: Norman J. Mecklem, Elizabeth Rose Smith (now Mrs. Chester S. Ramsey), Genevieve Adamson and Wilbur Traylor.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. J. A. Snodgrass (1874-1877), Rev. A. J. Bonsall (1878-1904), Rev. A. J. Ireby (1905-1909), Rev. A. E. Finn (1909-1918), Rev. Robert I. Wilson (1918-1924), Rev. William F. Böstick (1925-1929), Rev. Custer C. Rich (1929-1933), Rev. Alpha M. Finch (1934——).

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, LEECHBURG

ORGANIZED 1875

The First Baptist Church of Leechburg was organized by a small group of Baptists in a room at the Siberian Iron Works, Leechburg, May 3, 1875. The organizational meeting was presided over by the Rev. Lloyd Morgan, pastor of the Apollo Baptist church. William R. Duff and William Rogers were elected deacons, Joseph Clarke, church clerk, and Mark Guthridge, treasurer. The five trustees elected were William R. Duff, William Rogers, Shadrach Hadley, John Benjamin and Isaac Milliken.

The church edifice, located on the corner of Third and Siberian Streets, was erected in 1880. The church became a member of the Clarion Baptist Association in 1882, but withdrew in 1889 to become a member of the Pittsburgh Baptist Association. In 1914 a parsonage was built with money received from the estate of Elizabeth Trout. The present membership is 121.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. Lloyd Morgan (1875-1880), Rev. W. A. Barns (1880-1885), Rev. C. W. Ray (1885-1886),

Rev. H. H. Leamy (1887-1891), Rev. A. A. Mainwaring (1891-1893), Rev. Alfred Caldwell (1894-1895), Rev. J. N. Brannock (1896), Rev. T. M. McDermott (1897-1900), Rev. C. F. Cornman (1906-1909), Rev. M. Palmer (1910-1911), Rev. S. J. Cummings (1911-1912), Rev. Thomas Lambert (1913-1914), Rev. S. W. Mitchell (1915-1919), Rev. C. F. Carll (1920-1924), Rev. E. G. Zwayner (1924-1925), Rev. J. H. Hanson (1928-1930), Rev. T. M. Denning (1930-1936), Rev. Gilbert Heilman (1936——).



## UNION BAPTIST CHURCH, PITTSBURGH

ORGANIZED 1876

The Union Baptist church, Pittsburgh, was organized February 16, 1876, by the merging of the South Pittsburgh and East Birmingham Baptist churches, with 159 charter members. The South Pittsburgh church had been organized and received into the Pittsburgh Baptist Association in 1849. At that time it reported fifteen members, with the Rev. C. Parker as pastor. The East Birmingham church

had been organized in 1862, and was received into the Pittsburgh Baptist Association in 1863, reporting sixty-seven members, with the Rev. Isaac Banks as pastor. The Union Baptist Church was received into the Pittsburgh Baptist Association in 1876, with 168 members.

In 1890, eleven members of the Union church were dismissed by letter to organize the First Baptist Church of Jeannette. The following year the Jeannette church was received into the Pittsburgh Association, with seventeen members.

In 1894, forty-six members of the Union church were dismissed by letter to organize a church on Maple Avenue, Pittsburgh. This organization grew into what is today the Knoxville Baptist Church, Pittsburgh.

In 1895 the Union church organized a mission Sunday school on Cobden Street, Pittsburgh. Within a few years this Sunday school developed into what is today the Cobden Street Baptist Church of Pittsburgh.

In 1908 the Union church dismissed thirty-seven members by letter to organize the Bethel Baptist Church, Carrick. The first building of the Bethel congregation was located on the corner of Birmingham and Amanda Avenues. In 1927 the Bethel congregation moved into its new \$250,000 edifice, located on the corner of Brownsville and Hornaday Roads and Madeline Street.



The first edifice of the Union church was located on the corner of Nineteenth Street and Wrights Way, South Side, Pittsburgh. It was dedicated May 11, 1884. The mortgage was burned February 21, 1892.

In 1930 the Union and Bethel churches entered into an agreement of merger, whereupon the Union congregation moved into the new Bethel church edifice on the corner of Brownsville and Hornaday Roads, while at the same time the Bethel church relinquished its charter, and all its members joined the Union church by merger. Thus the daughter church united with the mother church, while at the same time the mother church moved into the building of the daughter church. The charter of the Union church was not changed in any way by the merger.

The present church edifice is of brick, with stone trimming. It has a seating capacity of 800. The organ is a duplex model, with chimes. The social hall is equipped with a stage and has a seating capacity of 400. The Sunday school equipment is modern in every respect. The parsonage, having six rooms and bath, adjoins the church. The entire property is estimated to be worth \$300,000.

Statistics show that 3,648 persons have united with the church in its sixty-three years of existence. During the same period of time, the total contributions for all purposes have amounted to \$626,481.38,

of which \$118,243.02 was for missions. The present membership is one thousand.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. J. L. Phillips (1876-1880), Rev. William Hildreth (1880-1884), Rev. J. W. Riddle (1884-1893), Rev. J. M. Thomas (1894-1903), Rev. A. A. Nellis (1904-1907), Rev. W. T. Tapscott (1907-1910), Rev. Joseph R. Wood (1911-1918), Rev. G. M. Walker (1918-1920), Rev. M. C. Westphal (1920-1922), Rev. M. R. Palmer (1923-1925), Rev. William H. Cutler (1926-1930), Rev. William Russell Pankey (1931——).

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## INDUSTRY BAPTIST CHURCH

ORGANIZED 1882

The Industry Baptist Church was organized in the Industry public school building, April 9, 1882, with seventeen constituent members. Rev. J. K. Cramer, pastor of the Elizabeth Baptist Church, rendered valuable services to the group for a while. The church edifice was dedicated April 15, 1888, the dedicatory sermon being preached by Rev. J. K. Cramer. The church became a member of the Pittsburgh Baptist Association, May 5, 1885. The present membership is seventy-four.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. James Miller (1885-1886), Rev. John Birk (1886-1887), Rev. E. C. Weeks (1887-1888), Rev. A. J. Adams (1888-1891), Rev. S. A. Smith (1891-1892), Rev. A. Hare (1892-1893), Rev. C. M. Turner (1893-1895), Rev. Peter Cook (1897-1898), Rev. G. W. Gibson (1898-1900), Rev. E. K. Bailey (1902-1903), Rev. Thomas Thomas (1903-1907), Rev. Daniel E. Ewig (1909-1915), Rev. A. C. Downing (1915-1923), Rev. Frank Edge (1923-1926), Rev. Noah Fehl (1926-1934), Rev. Noah Fehl, Jr. (1934-1935), Rev. Susanne Gouker (1935——).



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, HOMESTEAD

ORGANIZED 1884

The First Baptist Church of Homestead started as a mission in McClure Hall, Homestead, in 1879. The actual organization of the church took place February 16, 1884, with eleven charter members: as follows: John D. Miller, Mrs. Martha A. Miller, Edwin Rowe, Mrs. Catherine Rowe, W. S. Bullock, Mrs. Mary E. Bullock, Mrs. May E. Edwards, Evan Edwards, Miss Susie Bullock, Mrs. Mary Jones and William J. Roberts.

The first church edifice, located on the corner of Fourth Avenue and Amity Street, Homestead, was dedicated December 19, 1887. The present edifice,

located on the corner of Ninth Avenue and McClure Street, was dedicated June 7, 1908. The former church building was sold to the newly organized Hungarian Baptist church. The present membership is 640.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. F. R. Scully (1884-1887), Rev. Daniel S. Mulhern (1887-1890), Rev. H. J. Hamilton (1890-1891), Rev. W. T. Gallaway (1891-1895), Rev. William Quay Rosselle (1895-1903), Rev. H. Walker Vincent (1903-1910), Rev. A. F. Williamson (1910-1915), Rev. N. R. McDonald (1916-1918), Rev. C. E. Hemans (1919-1922), Rev. Charles E. Griffin (1922-1926), Rev. H. E. Shade (1926-1937), Rev. Richard I. Porter (1938——).

**RIVERVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**McKEESPORT**  
**ORGANIZED 1884**

The Riverview Baptist Church of McKeesport was organized by the Swedish people of the town, September 6, 1884. The organization took place in the home of Mr. C. A. Person, 1127 Jenny Lind Street, McKeesport, under the direction of the Rev. O. Lindh, from New York City. The seventeen charter members were: A. F. Skager, Mrs. Maria Skager, C. O. Lechman, L. P. Rodjare, C. Lindahl, E. W. Lindquist, Mrs. Amalia Lindquist, Emil Skager, Frank Swartz, Axel Lundin, C. A. Person, Mrs. Augusta Person, J. A. Birath, Mrs. Emma Johnson, A. P. Lundquist, Mrs. Josephine Lundquist, Otto Bihl.

Services of worship were conducted for a while in the McKeesport Christian Church. At a later date the congregation moved to a large room rented from the Woman's Christian Temperance Union on Walnut Street. In 1890 the congregation moved to the High School building, Tenth and Walnut Streets. In 1891 it occupied its new edifice at 1010 Jenny Lind Street. The mortgage was burned in

1905. Due to shifting of the Swedish population, it became necessary to erect the present church on the corner of Soles and Riverview Streets. The cornerstone was laid June 9, 1907, and the dedicatory service held April 12, 1908. The present membership is 216. The members of the congregation who have entered Christian service include Charles I. Johnson, Fritz C. Hamlin, Edna Oden, Ephraim Hamlin, Henry Erickson, Henry W. Birch, Walfred G. Holmberg, Martin C. Hamlin, Judith S. Lindquist, Sigrid Anderson Bradley and Ruth Dahlman. The name of the church was changed from "The Swedish Baptist Church" to "The Riverview Baptist Church" in 1937.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. O. Lindh (1884), Rev. A. F. Skager (1885), Rev. C. F. Skager (1886), Rev. C. O. Leckman (1886), Rev. A. W. Tunelius (1887), Rev. C. O. Leckman (1887-1889), Rev. Ola Hanson (1889), Rev. C. A. Hamlin (1889), Rev. L. J. Kallberg (1889-1890), Axel Wester (1890-1892), Wm. Tjernlund (1892), E. Rosen (1892-1893), Rev. F. Ferre (1895-1896), Rev. A. A. Hammar (1897-1902), Rev. D. Lofstrom (1902-1905), Rev. E. J. Nordlander (1905-1914), Rev. C. T. Brodin (1914-1918), Rev. J. O. Hammarberg (1918-1925), Rev. Linus Johnson (1926-1929), Rev. C. Adolph Anderson (1929-1936), Rev. Donald P. Shogren (1936——).



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WEST NEWTON

ORGANIZED 1885

The First Baptist Church of West Newton grew out of a flourishing Sunday school conducted as early as 1878 in Dick's Bank, West Newton. J. E. Walter was superintendent of this Sunday school



in 1883. Prior to 1880, a lot was purchased and a building was partially erected, but due to financial reverses of the members, it was never completed.

The Salem Baptist Church, organized in 1790, is the mother of the First Baptist Church of West Newton. On February 23, 1885, the Salem church voted to dismiss some of its members to form the church at West Newton, and also provided a lot and building for the new organization. Accordingly, the First Baptist Church, West Newton, was organized April 11, 1885. The following month the church voted sixteen to six to affiliate with the Pittsburgh Baptist Association. The six negative votes favored affiliation with the Monongahela Baptist Association.

Miss Rosa Cochenour was the first candidate for baptism. J. M. Montgomery was probably the first clerk, and Nelson Weddle appears to have been the first treasurer. In 1896, several lots adjacent to the church were purchased, through the generosity of Nelson Weddle and Samuel Weimer. A parsonage was also erected the same year. The Mendon church was formed in 1898 by members of the West Newton church. The present church edifice was dedicated, July 2, 1905, the sermon being delivered by Rev. John H. Harris. In 1924 extensive repairs were made on the property. The fiftieth anniversary was celebrated June 16, 1935. The present membership is 287.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. John Burke (1885-1886), Rev. E. Calvin Weeks (1886-1888), Rev. A. J. King (1888-1890), Rev. J. A. Smith (1890-1893), Rev. L. M. Jaco (1894-1895), Rev. E. K. Bailey (1895-1901), Rev. A. M. Gregg (1901-1911), Rev. Allen W. Nettleman (1912), Rev. S. J. Cleeland (1913-1915), Rev. Chester C. Winter (1916-1919), Rev. Arthur C. Wright (1920-1923), Rev. Noah Fehl (1923-1936), Rev. E. R. Williams (1936——).



## EAST END BAPTIST CHURCH PITTSBURGH

ORGANIZED 1886

This church was originally organized September 19, 1886, as the Shady Avenue Baptist Church, with 119 charter members. Many of these members had previously been affiliated with the disbanded Penn Avenue Baptist Church. The first public services were held in Wilson's Hall, on Frankstown Avenue—while awaiting the construction of the new edifice on Shady Avenue.

In 1933 the church building formerly occupied by the Second United Presbyterian Church, Stanton

and Negley Avenues, was purchased, and the congregation forthwith moved to this new location. The church took the new name of "The East End Baptist Church" at the time it moved into the present building. Four of the original charter members are still affiliated with the church. The present membership is 350.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. E. D. Hammond (1886-1890), Rev. W. A. Stanton (1890-1912), Rev. J. E. Norcross (1912-1916), Rev. A. D. Hilton (1916-1919), Rev. R. N. Jessup (1920-1928), Rev. E. B. Hully (1928-1929), Rev. R. G. Pierson (1929——).

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, OAKMONT

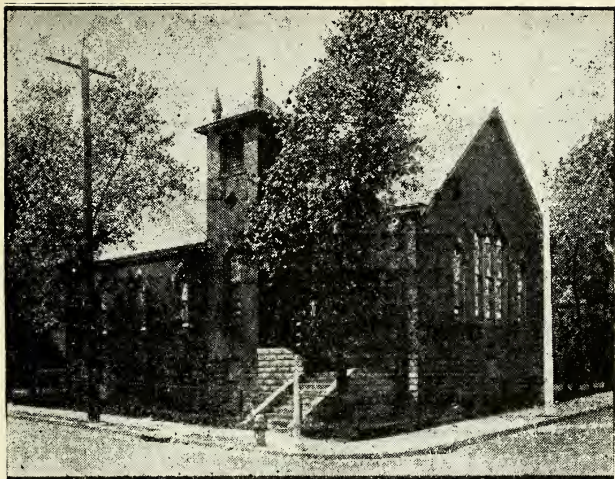
ORGANIZED 1889

The First Baptist Church of Oakmont was organized the same year the Pittsburgh Baptist Association celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. The church had its inception in the minds of a small group of earnest souls who on March 3, 1889, met and prayed in the home of George Lewis, Verona. Prior to that date, a Baptist church had been organized in Verona, but by 1889 it had gone the way of all disbanded churches.

The first meeting place of the Oakmont church was a large room above the Kent and Lashell Livery Stable, Verona. The organization of the church took place March 31, 1889, with twenty-two charter members. Later the congregation met in the Oakmont Presbyterian Church, and also in the school house on College Avenue. The present church edifice was erected in 1895. The mortgage was burned in 1912. The church celebrated its fiftieth anniversary with appropriate ceremonies in March, 1939. The present membership is 190.

The following ministers have served the church:  
Rev. J. K. Kramer (1889), Rev. A. J. King (1890-

1891), Rev. H. C. Hall (1891), Rev. D. E. Richards (1893), Rev. Randolph McCullough (1893-1895), Rev. T. J. Edwards (1895-1896), Rev. J. H. Higby (1896-1900), Rev. J. G. Lauderbaugh (1900-1902), Rev. G. W. Taft (1902-1905), Rev. S. J. Cunnings (1905-1907), Rev. J. W. McDouall (1908-1909), Rev. J. Dean Brown (1910), Rev. G. M. Shott (1911-1912), Rev. A. C. Drummond (1913-1914), Rev. Thomas Lambert (1914-1917), Rev. George B. Lawson (1918), Rev. Arthur Gee (1918), Rev. L. D. Dunning (1920-1923), Rev. D. M. Lenox (1923-1924), Rev. D. L. Wood (1924-1929), Rev. H. J. Blossie (1929), Rev. H. G. Hoffman (1930-1934), Rev. A. C. Hull, Jr. (1934-1939), Rev. Francis E. Cooper (1939——).



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, DUQUESNE

ORGANIZED 1889

The First Baptist Church of Duquesne was organized in Conlin's Hall, Duquesne, March 17, 1889. T. H. Chapman presided as moderator and John R. Davies served as clerk. The eleven charter members were: John R. Davies, James McGilchrist, S. A. Bennett, Anne Bennett, A. G. Howells, Jane McGilchrist, William Bennett, Elizabeth Bennett, Marie Bennett, Mrs. M. Capen and T. H. Chapman.

The church received its charter in 1890. The first collection amounted to one dollar and seventy-five cents. The first deacons were, John R. Davies, James McGilchrist and Charles Beddow. The church was received into the Pittsburgh Baptist Association May 22, 1898. The church edifice was erected in 1891, and the parsonage in 1896. The present membership is 126.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. Alfred Turner (1890-1891), Rev. W. S. Wood (1892), Rev. G. F. Mainwaring (1893-1894), Rev. C. A. Wilson (1895), Rev. J. K. Kramer (1895-1901), Rev. C. A. McFall (1901-1902), Rev. E. L. McKeever (1902-1905), Rev. E. C. Schumaker (1905-1908), Rev. Thomas Griffith (1908-1912), Rev. Charles L. Hunter (1912-1913), Rev. John A. Erbe (1914-1919), Rev. W. W. Bacon (1919-1927), Rev. Frank A. Kelly (1927-1929), Rev. Henry W. Birch (1929-1934), Rev. George F. Hambleton (1934——).



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, TARENTUM

ORGANIZED 1890

In the fall of 1889 a small group of Baptists, under the leadership of Justus Hess, a merchant of Tarentum, met together in a rented hall to discuss plans for the establishment of a Baptist church in Tarentum. The first public service was conducted April 16, 1890, with Rev. T. H. Chapman preaching the sermon. Fourteen days later, April 30, 1890, the First Baptist Church of Tarentum was officially organized, with twelve members.

The first house of worship was erected in 1892 by means of financial assistance from the Pittsburgh Baptist Association. The edifice was a beautiful wooden structure which was adequate for the needs of the congregation for thirty-seven years. The entire building indebtedness was paid in full within ten years.

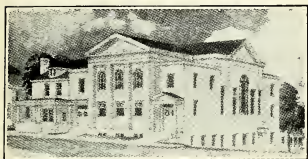
In order to meet the needs of the rapidly growing congregation, the present brick edifice was erected in 1928. Shortly thereafter the members of the congregation became greatly discouraged because of a financial panic in the community. Undaunted by adverse circumstances, the church has steadily forged

ahead, with an unrelenting determination to liquidate its building indebtedness. The present membership is 266.

The following ministers have served the church:  
Rev. J. W. Williams, Rev. W. G. Carl, Rev. W. K. Morgan, Rev. Ward Hibbs (1931-1934), Rev. D. O. Slyter (1935-1936), Rev. Robert W. Bevington (1936——).

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, JEANNETTE

ORGANIZED 1890

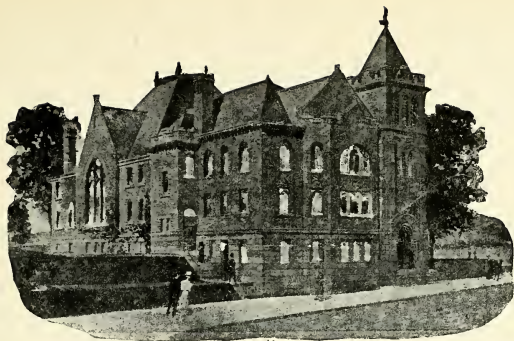


Among the first settlers of Jeannette were a few Baptists who had moved there from Pittsburgh, where they had been members of the

Union Baptist Church. These and others became interested in the establishment of a Baptist Sunday school—which in the year 1890 was organized as an independent Baptist church. Approximately thirty charter members constituted the original membership.

The first house of worship was a small wooden chapel, erected in 1890. Twelve years later a basement was dug under the building, and this was used for Sunday school purposes. The parsonage was erected in 1894. On October 10, 1924, the church edifice was destroyed by fire. Two days later the congregation met and voted to rebuild the edifice immediately. On June 6, 1926, the new \$125,000 church was dedicated. The present membership is 314.

The following ministers have served the church:  
Rev. George B. McKee, Rev. F. H. Sherman, Rev.  
Samuel V. Marsh, Rev. T. W. Booth, Rev. D. C.  
White, Rev. Cyrus Christian, Rev. A. B. Conrad,  
Rev. J. C. Lauderbaugh, Rev. L. T. Evans, Rev. H.  
E. Shade, Rev. R. A. Stoltz, Rev. Alvin C. Cober,  
Rev. G. B. Hemans, and Rev. George E. Thornton  
(1938——).



## WILKINSBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

ORGANIZED 1892

The Wilkinsburg Baptist Church was organized May 22, 1892, in Ralston Hall, with nine charter members: Mrs. M. E. Thompson, Anna Thompson, Blanche Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. William Maxon, Mr. and Mrs. William Harris, Mrs. Mary Marshall and T. J. McClernan. Within six months the membership had grown to twenty-two. The church was admitted to the Pittsburgh Baptist Association, October 27, 1892.

In 1892 the congregation purchased the Methodist church building on Wallace Avenue, and after considerable remodeling moved into it, September 30,

1893. In 1897 a mission was started in Homewood by the Wilkinsburg church. The present church edifice was dedicated, January 13, 1907. During the period of the construction of the new church the congregation met in a hall over the First National Bank. In 1915 the pipe organ was installed in the sanctuary. The present membership is 715.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. J. M. Ray (1892-1896), Rev. J. M. Moore (1897-1904), Rev. George C. Horter (1904-1907), Rev. B. F. G. Magee (1908-1914), Rev. J. A. Monk (1915-1920), Rev. Floyd Carr (1920-1923), Rev. Charles Rust (1924-1925), Rev. Oliver Sisson (1925-1931), Rev. Orva Lee Ice (1931——).

**EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH  
PITTSBURGH**  
ORGANIZED 1892



In 1886 a Bible school was started in Shipman's Hall by thirteen members of the Nixon Street Baptist Church — now the Beth Eden — and the Fourth Avenue church. The school was called the "Woods Run Baptist Mission." In 1888 the first church build-

ing was erected—and dedicated free of debt.

On July 6, 1892, the Emmanuel Church was organized by twenty-five members, who were dismissed by letter from the Nixon Street Baptist Church of Pittsburgh. They were: Gertrude Berkhardt, Lizzie Cochrane, Sarah Cochrane, Deborah Cadugan, Arthur Davis, Charles Davis, David Hargest, M. A. Hargest, Lottie Harris, Thomas Jenkins, Annie Jenkins, Sadie Jenkins, Edward Jones, Sarah

Jones, Mabel McClelland, Annie McClelland, Maggie McClelland, J. F. McClelland, William Nichols, John Powell, Ruth Powell, E. E. Reed, William Williams, Carrie Williams, Elizabeth Williams.

The church was recognized by the Pittsburgh Baptist Association in 1893. Two years later lots were presented by F. J. Torrance and a brick building erected and dedicated. The church was chartered in 1894. The present church edifice on Davis Avenue was dedicated December 13, 1914; the old building on Petrel Street having been sold to the Slovak Congregational church. The present membership is 152.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. J. M. Ray (1892-1893), Rev. Hugh Hughes (1894-1902), Rev. J. N. Williams (1902-1906), Rev. Thomas Sherbondy (1906-1909), Rev. J. Leonard (1909), Rev. John Sherman (1910-1912), Rev. Charles Fitzwilliam (1913), Rev. P. F. DeLancy (1914), Rev. S. M. Smith (1914-1917), Rev. L. B. Stivers (1918-1919), Rev. J. A. T. Marsteller (1919-1924), Rev. L. B. Stivers (1924-1926), Rev. B. A. Wilson (1926-1929), Rev. A. B. Whiting (1930-1935), Rev. Lester I. Snyder (1936——).



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, FORD CITY

ORGANIZED 1892



The First Baptist Church of Ford City is the outgrowth of a Sunday school that was conducted in a private home. It was organized with twelve charter members, in 1892. The first public services were held in a large hall over the office of the

Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company. When this building was destroyed by fire the early records of the congregation were likewise burned. Subsequently services were conducted in the Farmer's Building and in the Knights of Pythias Hall. Prior to the erection of the present church edifice, in 1911, the congregation met for a while in the Ford City Episcopal church.

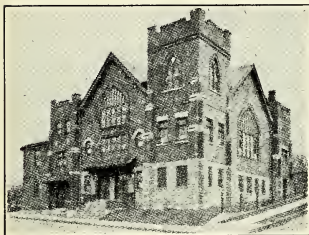
The church mortgage was paid off in 1916. Since that date many improvements have been made on the property. The present membership is 322.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. John Owens (1892), Rev. I. W. Schumaker, Rev. Frank Schumaker, Rev. John Higby, Rev. Frank Thomas (1904-1909), Rev. C. A. Wilson (1909-1911), Rev. Thomas A. Lloyd (1911-1914), Rev. A. B. Bowser (1915-1923), Rev. R. Hammel (1924-1928), Rev. Melvin Crump (1929-1930), Rev. M. R. Sheldon (1930——).

## PARK BAPTIST CHURCH, McKEESPORT

ORGANIZED 1893



On May 6, 1887, the First Baptist Church of McKeesport organized a mission Sunday school in the public school building on Wood Street, McKeesport. Within a year this Sunday school in-

creased in membership so that it was necessary to purchase a building. It was in this building on Fifth Avenue that the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church was organized, January 26, 1893,—with 117 charter members, who had been dismissed from the First Baptist Church by letter. In 1896 the church building was torn down in order that a larger one might be erected on the same site. This new edifice was dedicated on October 22, 1899. The present church edifice, located on the corner of Park Street and Versailles Avenue, was dedicated January 22, 1922. At that time the name of the church was changed from “The Fifth Avenue Baptist Church” to “The

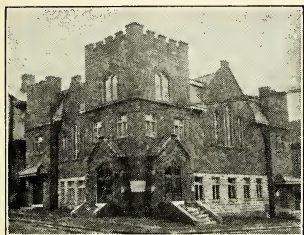
Park Baptist Church of McKeesport." The present membership is 224.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. William M. Ryan (1893-1896), Rev. W. L. Anderson (1896-1897), Rev. John T. Davis (1897-1905), Rev. George N. Spencer (1905-1908), Rev. D. K. Wood (1908-1910), Rev. J. S. Neisser (1910-1918), Rev. J. T. Davis (1918-1919), Rev. William R. Hill (1919-1924), Rev. James C. Hill (1924-1927), Rev. John E. Fosnight (1927-1932), Rev. C. E. Downing (1932-1933), and Rev. H. H. Newell (1934——).

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH, ARNOLD

ORGANIZED 1894



In the year 1894, the German Baptist Mission was organized in Arnold, by Otto Sarge. Prior to the building of the first chapel, in 1899, the services were held at the Windsor Hotel. Bible instruction was

provided for the children of German immigrants.

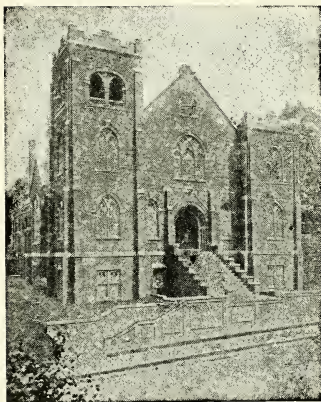
The Temple Baptist Church of Pittsburgh gave general oversight to the work of the mission, until 1919, when it was organized as an independent church. In 1925 the present church edifice was erected, on the corner of Kenneth Avenue and McCandless Street—at a cost of \$45,000. In recent years all services have been conducted in the English language. The present membership is 154.

The following pastors have served the church:

Rev. William Swyter, Rev. E. W. Braun, Rev. William A. Schoen (1918-1921), Rev. C. E. Cramer (1921-1927), Rev. Edward Stevener (1928-1932), Rev. David Zimmerman (1933-1936), Rev. C. E. Cramer (1937——).

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH NEW KENSINGTON

ORGANIZED 1894



The First Baptist church of New Kensington was organized in 1894. The first meeting place was the bar room of the Windsor Hotel. In 1895 the group moved to Kuhlman's Hall. Later places of meeting included the Parnassus school house, the Covenantan church, and the United Presby-

terian church. A. F. Houser, a converted Roman Catholic priest, presided at the first organizational meeting, at which deacons and trustees were elected to serve for a period of six months. The three deacons elected at this meeting included H. S. Sloan, F. W. Limberg and C. A. Hager. The trustees elected included A. A. George, R. Lloyd and J. C. Reed. Lewis Kuhlman was made treasurer.

The first candidates for baptism were J. C. Reed and W. L. Johns. They were baptized in the Allegheny River, near the midnight hour, October 10, 1894. The church was received into the Pittsburgh Baptist Association, June 4, 1895. The first edifice was a wooden chapel, dedicated December 1, 1895. The church was remodeled in 1907. The present edifice was erected at a cost of \$30,000, and dedicated July 1, 1917. The first persons to be baptized in the new church were Mary Morgan, Elizabeth Morgan, and Florence Davies. In 1937, Miss Florence Tress was employed as the church missionary. In 1938, Lloyd Crosby was employed to assist in the missionary work. The present membership is 458.

The following ministers have served the church:  
Rev. John Owens (1894), Rev. Thomas Griffith (1895-1897), Rev. D. T. Firor (1897-1899), Rev. D. M. Patterson (1900-1911), Rev. G. W. Hatch (1911), Rev. W. A. Crawford (1911), Rev. A. J. Meek (1912-1926), Rev. R. D. Wood (1926-1929), Rev. F. N. Parson (1930-1936), and Rev. N. T. Lewis since 1937.



**KNOXVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH  
PITTSBURGH  
ORGANIZED 1895**

In 1895, forty-six members were dismissed by letter from the Union Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, to form the Maple Avenue Baptist Church, Allentown, Pittsburgh. This list included Rev. and Mrs. A. J. King, Jane Gue, Sophia Lloyd, Blanche Lloyd, James A. Griffith, Katie Griffith, Thomas McDowell, Emma McDowell, Mrs. E. Barclay, Anne Barclay, Mary Barclay, John Barclay, Kate Colley, Joseph Gue, George F. Easton, Sadie Easton, Nancy



Easton, Jennie Entriken, S. A. Entriken, Mrs. E. Wellington, Richard Wellington, Margaret Brown, Edith Brown, William Llewellyn, Sadie Davis, Mrs. E. Freed, Mollie Freed, Samuel Evey, Mrs. L. Evey, George Blakmore, Charles Bargesser, John Bargesser, Rena Huggins, O. B. Saul, Ada Simmons, John Simmons, Eliza J. Mitchell, Miss M. F. Jones, Aggie Evans, Sadie Kirk, John Channing, Mrs. O. B. Saul, Sadie Smith, Sarah Irwin and Dr. E. E. Riggs.

The Maple Avenue Baptist was organized September 27, 1895, with sixty-one members, and was admitted to the Pittsburgh and Allegheny Baptist Union the same year. The first church edifice was dedicated January 24, 1897. In 1909 the present building was erected on Orchard Avenue, Knoxville—at which time the name was changed to that of the Knoxville Baptist Church. The present membership is 256.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. A. J. King (1895-1905), Rev. T. J. Edwards (1905-1911), Rev. Frank K. Singiser (1911-1913), Rev. Walter J. Meade (1913-1917), Rev. L. J. Schœppler (1917-1920), Rev. Frank W. Stanton (1920-1923), Rev. George F. McElven (1926), Rev. Harold D. Germer (1927-1930), Rev. L. L. Hutchinson (1930), Rev. William Schœffel (1931-1933), Rev. James Allie Davidson (1934——).



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, TURTLE CREEK

ORGANIZED 1895

The First Baptist Church of Turtle Creek was organized as a mission in Kidd's Hall, Turtle Creek, in the spring of 1895. The organization was incorporated and the church edifice on Church Street was erected in 1900. Seventeen persons constitute the list of charter members, two of whom are still members of the church, namely, Mrs. Charlotte Emmanuel and Mrs. John Hall. The other charter

members were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Askin, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Fyfe, Philip Jones, Mrs. William Hall, Mr. and Mrs. R. Williamson, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Spamer, Miss Eva Price, Thomas Jones, Warren Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. William Cook. The present membership of the church is 245. The building now being occupied by the congregation was erected in 1914.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. P. J. Dickerson (1895-1896), Rev. John Page (1896), Rev. John Ray (1896-1897), Rev. D. C. White (1897-1899), Rev. W. B. Allen (1899-1901), Rev. D. T. Firor (1901-1904), Rev. F. B. Williams (1904-1907), Rev. Robert Gordon (1907-1908), Rev. Frank W. Crawford (1909-1910), Rev. F. B. Williams (1910-1912), Rev. A. C. McConnell (1913-1915), Rev. Clyde W. Townsend (1916-1919), Rev. M. Neilson (1920-1923), Rev. A. E. Douglass (1923-1927), Rev. George Buck (1927-1929), Rev. A. A. Wainwright (1929-1931), Rev. Charles Embrey (1932-1934), Rev. H. G. Hoffman (1934——).



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, CORAOPOLIS

ORGANIZED 1899

The First Baptist Church of Coraopolis grew out of religious services conducted by the Rev. W. H. McKinney in 1897 at the I. O. O. F. Hall on Sunday afternoons. A Sunday school was started in 1898. In the summer of 1899 the Rev. George T. Gibson conducted tent meetings under the auspices of the Pittsburgh Baptist Association. The church was officially organized in September of that year.

The first services were held in the Presbyterian church; then in the school house, until 1901. Nine persons constituted the list of charter members. The church edifice was erected in 1903. At the present time it is valued at \$18,000. The active membership is now 210.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. F. Lewis Brooks (1900-1901), Rev. George M. Owen (1902-1907), Rev. D. Percy French (1908-1911), Rev. Franklin I. Sigmund (1911-1912), Rev. Albert J. R. Schumaker (1912-1914), Rev. Berton A. Fisher (1914-1917), Rev. George N. Harward (1917-1918), Rev. Albert J. R. Schumaker (1919-1920), Rev. Daniel M. Lenox (1920-1923), Rev. Floyd H. Andrus (1924-1927), Rev. Benjamin F. Lloyd (1928-1931), Rev. James S. Stone (1931-1936), Rev. John W. Himes (1936——).

## VANDERGRIFT BAPTIST CHURCH

### ORGANIZED 1900

The Vandergrift Baptist Church was started as a mission, in 1899, and was organized as a church January 1, 1900. George E. Dawkins and Ernest Hartman entered the Christian ministry from this church. George Phillips and Mary Fishel also went out from it into Christian service. The present membership is 332.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. Clement Tomlinson (1900-1901), Rev. J. Sanford (1901-1903), Rev. Alexander Wilding (1903-1906), Rev. Herbert Grimwood (1906-1908), Rev. Walter Lindstrom (1908-1913), Rev. Joseph Breen (1914-1915), Rev. John Cameron (1916-1918), Rev. H. H. Hallowell (1919-1921), Rev. J. R. Campbell (1921-1925), Rev. B. F. Lloyd (1925-1928), Rev. Harry Rutchel (1928-1929), Rev. J. F. Brownlee (1929-1933), Rev. A. T. Wymore (1934-1936), Rev. D. O. Slyter (1936——).

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, PITCAIRN

ORGANIZED 1900

The First Baptist church of Pitcairn is the outgrowth of a mission established in 1899 by the Rev. G. G. Gibson of Industry. One year later, July 29, 1900, twelve persons assembled at Reed's Hall, and with the assistance of Rev. W. B. Allen of Turtle Creek, organized themselves into the First Baptist Church of Pitcairn.

The names of those twelve charter members are: Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Freed, Mrs. Ruby Myers, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Book, Minnie Book, Blanche Book, Bertha Book, Alex Heasley, R. G. Ellyson and Mr. and Mrs. John Gillespie.

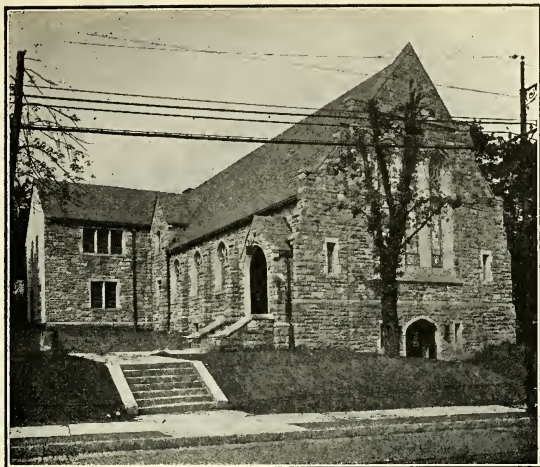
In 1901 the church was officially recognized by being voted into the membership of the Pittsburgh Baptist Association. The mortgage on the church edifice was burned in 1912. A beautiful parsonage was erected in 1928, at a cost of \$6,700—on which, however, there remains a substantial unpaid balance. The present membership is eighty.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. J. M. Hunter (1900-1902), Rev. G. W. Dowling (1902-1907), Rev. S. J. Becker (1907-1909),

Rev. J. Dennis (1909-1913), Rev. R. Hite (1913-1914), Rev. W. Crowley (1914), Rev. J. S. Scott (1914-1915), Rev. E. Rumsey (1915-1918), Rev. E. H. Baker (1918-1922), Rev. Charles Mills (1923-1926), Rev. W. Stalnacker (1926-1927), Rev. George E. Hoey (1928-1932), Rev. H. E. Hatchman (1933-1934), Rev. S. L. Cobb (1936-1937), Rev. George Khalil (1938——).





## BELLEVUE BAPTIST CHURCH

ORGANIZED 1900

The Bellevue Baptist Church was organized December 23, 1900, with twelve charter members, six coming from the Sandusky Street Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, four from the Nixon Street Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, and two from Columbus, Ohio. The names of these charter members are: Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Shaffnit, Mrs. Mullissa Palmer, Miss Caroline Palmer, Miss Emma Palmer, Mrs. G. L. Hayes, Miss Minnie Gerst, Mrs. Sarah Page, Mr.

and Mrs. H. C. Kirn, Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Judd. Four of these members are still affiliated with the church, namely, Miss Caroline Palmer, Miss Emma Palmer, Harry Kirn and Miss Minnie Gerst. Mrs. W. O. Judd is living in Virginia.

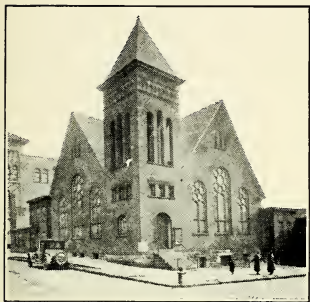
The first edifice was a wooden chapel, situated on Lincoln Avenue. In 1904 the congregation dedicated their second edifice on Meade Avenue, Bellevue. Today a large stone edifice houses the congregation. The present membership is 431.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. D. T. Firor (1900-1901), Rev. J. C. Wilkinson (1901-1903), Rev. Francis Kohler (1902-1908), Rev. Claude Kelley (1908-1910), Rev. F. R. McArthur (1911-1914), Rev. Samuel M. Lindsay (1915-1917), Rev. William H. Cutler (1915-1916), Rev. C. A. Decker (1919-1923), Rev. Frederick F. Shields (1924-1931), Rev. Harold F. Stoddard (1931——).

## HOMEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH PITTSBURGH

ORGANIZED 1901



In 1897 the Wilkinsburg Baptist Church assisted in the organization of a Baptist mission in Homewood, under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Verner. For a while services were conducted in a tent provided by the Pittsburgh Association.

Some months later the congregation moved to Carpenters Hall, Homewood Avenue. At a later date, services were held on the third floor of the McKee Building.

The church was organized October 2, 1901, by a small group of Baptists residing in the Homewood and Brushton districts. Twenty-one persons were recognized as charter members. Those of the number who are still members of the church are: Mrs. W. M. Verner, Mr. and Mrs. Fred H. Brown, Mrs. Anna McCormick and John A. Bresch.

The first edifice was a wooden chapel, on Kelly Street, erected in 1902. The present church building was purchased from the Homewood Presbyterian church in 1917. The church mortgage has been reduced substantially within recent years. The present membership is 300.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. W. S. Bayne (1903-1904), Rev. G. W. Taft (1905-1910), Rev. E. A. Harrar (1910-1922), Rev. B. F. Patt (1923-1926), Rev. E. H. Tomlin (1927-1928), Rev. W. R. Yokley (1929-1934), Rev. Kenneth F. Estey (1935——).

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, CRAFTON

ORGANIZED 1901

The First Baptist church of Crafton was organized with thirty-eight members, November 5, 1901. The records show that the charter members came by letter from widely scattered churches. The list includes the Fourth Avenue Church, Pittsburgh; the Shady Avenue Church, Pittsburgh; the Beth Eden Church, Pittsburgh; the First Baptist of Claysville, Pennsylvania; the First Baptist church of Indianapolis, Indiana; and the First Baptist Church of Carthage, Illinois. The only surviving charter member is Mrs. Catherine Taylor.

The congregation met in a frame chapel in Ingram until 1909, at which time the present church edifice was erected. In 1924 the congregation built a parsonage. In 1936 a new electric organ was purchased. The Sheridan Baptist church merged with the Crafton church in 1930. The church carries a mortgage of \$4000 on its parsonage. The present membership is 162.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. Henry A. Buell (1901-1904), Rev. A. B. Bowser (1904-1915), Rev. Roy H. Barrett (1915-

1918), Rev. Paul E. Smith (1919-1920), Rev. Joseph Yule (1920-1927), Rev. Roland O. Hudson (1927-1931), Rev. John E. Fosnight (1932-1935), Rev. George C. Horter (1935-1937), Rev. Arthur F. Purkiss (1937-1939), and Rev. Richard P. Brown since 1939.

## CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, IRWIN

ORGANIZED 1902

This church was incorporated as the Welsh Baptist Church of Irwin, March 29, 1902. It was re-incorporated as the Calvary Baptist Church of Irwin, October 7, 1911. It was located at that time on Walnut Street, Irwin. The church edifice now occupied by the congregation was purchased from the Primitive Methodist Church, October 30, 1912.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. Noah Fehl (1912-1923), Rev. Charles F. Smalley (1924-1931), Rev. H. E. White (1934), Rev. Henry W. Birch (1934-1937), Rev. Walter K. McCulloch (1937—).

The three present licentiates of the church are Dr. J. C. Mason, Mrs. Walter K. McCulloch and A. John Thomas. The membership is 329.



## BROAD STREET BAPTIST CHURCH WASHINGTON

ORGANIZED 1902

The Broad Street Baptist Church of Washington is situated in the western section of the city, and was organized to meet the needs of the rapidly increasing population there. Rev. Stephen Drummond, pastor of the Washington First Baptist Church, was the first to realize the need of religious work in



this new center of population. He immediately told some of the members of his congregation of his vision and enthusiasm.

Under the leadership of I. J. Dickison, a Sunday school was soon organized in Murray Hall, Ewing Street and Baird Avenue. The work grew so rapidly that larger quarters were soon needed. A lot on the corner of Broad Street and McCarrell Avenue was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Treat, and a chapel erected thereon.

In May, 1902, the church was organized and officially recognized by the Pittsburgh Baptist Association. The membership grew rapidly. The present church edifice with its splendid Sunday school equipment bears testimony to the evangelistic zeal of the congregation. A parsonage has also been erected in recent years. The present membership is 413.

The following ministers have served the church:  
Rev. S. L. Parcell (1902-1925), Rev. A. M. Gibson (1925-1928), Rev. Arthur D. Smalley (1928——).

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, MONESSEN

### ORGANIZED 1902

Several years before the town of Monessen came into existence, a Baptist Sunday school was established in the community by Joseph Reed. Through the efforts of John Richards and the Rev. W. S. Prichard, a church was organized in Loutitts Hall, June 20, 1902, bearing the name of Bethany Baptist Church. Of the eleven original charter members, Mrs. Margaret Weddell and Mrs. Mary Winstone are still active in the church. The name of the congregation was changed to that of the First Baptist Church of Monessen, April 15, 1903.

For six years the services were conducted in rented halls and in the homes of the members. The home of Mr. and Mrs. George Nash was a very popular meeting place. The present church edifice was erected in 1909, and the mortgage was burned at a prayer-meeting service in 1913.

In 1903 the church organized a mission Sunday school in Donora, which has since grown into an independent church. Three young men have entered the Christian ministry from the Monessen church: Rev. J. E. Ficco, Rev. Raymond Wreath and Rev.

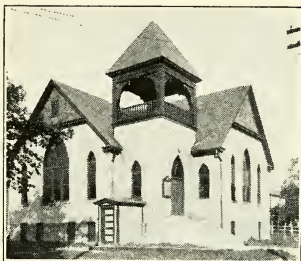
John Myers. The present membership is 303; with a Sunday school membership of 312.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. H. H. Hallowell (1902-1904), Rev. Henry Madtes (1905-1907), Rev. John Cherney (1907-1909), Rev. H. E. Wallace (1909-1913), Rev. W. S. Carson (1914-1919), Rev. E. T. Carter (1919-1921), Rev. W. W. Anderson (1921-1923), Rev. C. B. Jones (1924-1928), Rev. D. S. Woods (1929-1930), Rev. H. W. Fowler (1931-1933), Rev. J. E. Ficco (1934-1935), Rev. John E. Fosnight (1935——).

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH McKEES ROCKS

ORGANIZED 1902



The First Baptist church of McKees Rocks was organized with twenty charter members in Fraternal Hall, McKees Rocks, October 5, 1902. For a while services were conducted in the homes of the members. In 1905 the congregation moved to the old building of the Methodist church. Two years later the flood waters from the Ohio river damaged the building to such an extent that it had to be vacated. In 1909 the congregation conducted services in a large store room in West Park. The present church edifice was erected in 1911. The membership is now 200.

The following ministers have served the church:  
Rev. W. E. Prichard (1902-1903), Rev. W. E. Lowe (1903), Rev. E. L. Scott (1903), Rev. W. A. Rupert (1904), Rev. A. J. King (1906-1907), Rev. E. T. Haddock (1907-1909), Rev. I. C. Taylor (1909-1914), Rev. J. Alexander Clyde (1914——).

## ALLISON AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH WASHINGTON

ORGANIZED 1902

The Allison Avenue Baptist Church of Washington was organized in 1902 by members dismissed from the Washington First Church. The first church edifice was erected by M. C. Treat in the suburb of Tylerdale. Fifty-seven charter members constituted the original organization. Due to the rapid growth of the congregation, it soon became necessary to enlarge the church building. At a later date a parsonage was erected. The present membership is 256.

Rev. Martin Jones and Rev. David Morris have entered the Christian ministry from this church. In 1906 a mission work was started at Canonsburg by members of the Allison Avenue Church. This work soon developed into the present First Baptist Church of Canonsburg. The same year the members of the church started a mission work at Bentleyville, which later became the Bentleyville Baptist Church.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. W. M. Courson (1902-1908), Rev. James S. Jewell (1909-1916), Rev. David Morris (1927——). Between 1916 and 1927 the church was supplied by Messrs. Johnson, Bradley, Taylor and Arblaster.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, SWISSVALE

ORGANIZED 1904



The First Baptist Church of Swissvale was organized by a small group of Baptists in the public hall of the Swissvale Bank, May 29, 1904, through the

tireless efforts of the Rev. George T. Street. The church was admitted to membership in the Pittsburgh Baptist Association, January 23, 1905. The congregation moved to Berkley's Hall in 1907, and not being financially able to support a pastor, the congregation secured the services of the pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church, Carrick, on a part-time basis. In 1909 the congregation purchased the building formerly occupied by the Presbyterian church, Schoyer and Miriam Streets. The brick parsonage was erected in 1916. The present membership is 103.

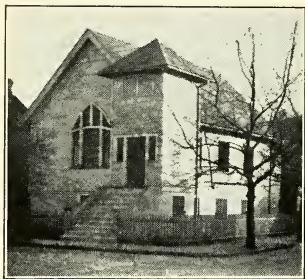
The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. George T. Street (1905-1908), Rev. L. P. Valentine (1908-1912), Rev. John S. Brownlee (1912-1915), Rev. H. Miles (1915-1916), Rev. M.

Yahn (1916-1917), Rev. W. W. West (1917-1920), Rev. Norman J. Mecklem (1920-1929), Rev. Charles F. Ransbottom (1932-1938). At the time this history is published the church is without a pastor.

## FIRST SLOVAK BAPTIST CHURCH CREIGHTON

ORGANIZED 1905



In the years following 1900, many Slovaks left their homeland and came to America. Some of them settled in western Pennsylvania. Upon their arrival in America they found living conditions unpleasant. No provision

was made for their religious and social needs, except through home mission agencies. The Pittsburgh Baptist Association was quick to sense this need and opportunity, and accordingly, the Rev. Matthias Steucek, celebrated missionary pastor in Czechoslovakia (then Austria-Hungary), was invited by the Pittsburgh Baptist Association to take charge of the work at Creighton.

Arriving in America May 17, 1903, the Rev. Matthias Steucek immediately took charge of the work at Creighton. The first services were held in a rented

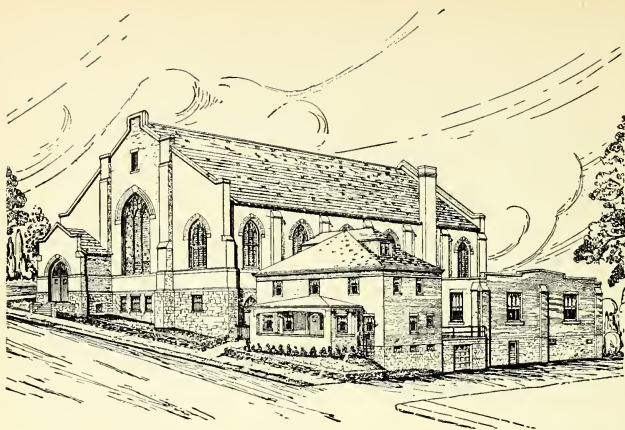


hall. In 1905, a church building was purchased and the church was organized. This was the first Slovak Baptist church in America, and became the mother of many others in various sections of the country.

For a while it was difficult to obtain religious literature printed in the Slovak language. This difficulty was removed when the Rev. Mr. Steucek purchased a printing press and published and distributed many thousands of tracts. He also published the first Slovak Baptist paper in America, *The Friend of Peace*. The membership of the church has remained small due largely to changing economic conditions, but its influence has extended far.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. Matthias Steucek, Rev. A. Meeriess and Rev. J. Sturman. Mrs. John Kana, Yonkers, New York, was formerly a member of the Creighton church, and was the first Slovak woman missionary in the United States.



## LORENZ AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH PITTSBURGH

ORGANIZED 1905

The Lorenz Avenue Baptist church of Pittsburgh had its inception in a cottage prayer meeting in the home of Deacon H. R. Fox and conducted by the Rev. L. C. Barnes, pastor of the Fourth Avenue Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, January 8, 1897. Two weeks later, a Sunday school was organized with Frank D. Settle as the superintendent. The Odd Fellows Hall on Steuben Street was the first meeting place of the Sunday school. Sunday afternoon

worship and preaching services were likewise regularly conducted.

In 1898 the Pittsburgh and Allegheny Baptist Union loaned sufficient funds to erect a chapel on the corner of Lorenz Avenue and Steuben Street. The following July, the Sunday school moved into the new building. The adjoining lot of ground was donated by George K. Stevenson.

Rev. W. H. Swallow, assistant pastor of the Fourth Avenue Baptist Church, served the Lorenz Avenue branch as its first leader. In 1900 the Rev. Clarence S. Spaulding took charge of the congregation, but his untimely death terminated his pastorate the following year. Rev. J. V. Stratton served as interim pastor for several months prior to the calling of the Rev. R. B. Davidson November 24, 1901, who served for only two years. In 1903 the Rev. L. P. Valentine, of La Crosse, Wisconsin, became pastor. Under his leadership the entire indebtedness was cleared off.

On January 23, 1905, the congregation was recognized officially as an independent church by action of the Fourth Avenue Baptist church. Persons participating in the recognition services held March 9, 1905, included Rev. A. A. Nellis, Rev. W. G. Partridge, Rev. A. R. Stark, Rev. Henry C. Gleiss. The present church edifice was dedicated September 20, 1908. The membership of the church is now 209.

The following ministers have served the church since it became an independent organization:

Rev. L. P. Valentine (1903-1908), Rev. Daniel L. Scultz (1909-1910), Rev. R. B. Dwyer (1910-1913), Rev. R. E. Williams (1913-1919), Rev. Leonard W. Ramsey (1920-1927), Rev. Ira Freeman (1928-1933), Rev. John Samuels (1933-1935), Rev. C. A. Anderson (1935——).



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH AND PARSONAGE, CANONSBURG

ORGANIZED 1906

The First Baptist church of Canonsburg was organized in a hall over a livery stable in Canonsburg, February 18, 1906. Some weeks later the congregation moved to a lodge hall in the Gowern building. The church grew numerically and spiritually. The corner-stone of the present church edifice—located

on Jefferson Avenue—was laid June 2, 1907, the pastor of the Allison Avenue Baptist church, Washington, presiding.

The following members of the church are now serving as missionaries on the foreign field: Rev. and Mrs. Newberry Cox, Rev. and Mrs. Harry Stam, Mrs. Bessie Ekstrom and Miss Mildred Cushnie. The present membership is 258.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. W. M. Courson (1906-1908), Rev. David Morris (1908-1910), Rev. Herbert F. Loomis (1910-1913), Rev. H. P. Wise (1913-1915), Rev. William J. John (1915-1922), Rev. J. P. Tampt (1922-1923), Rev. John W. Parker (1924-1926), Rev. Newberry Cox (1926-1928), Rev. L. S. Erb (1929-1939).

## GLASSPORT BAPTIST CHURCH

ORGANIZED 1907

The Glassport Baptist Church was organized January 13, 1907. The industrial development of the Glassport community has slowed down within recent years, resulting in the slow growth of the Baptist church. In 1907 the church was admitted to membership in the Pittsburgh Baptist Association. The present membership is seventy-seven.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. C. A. Wilson (1908), Rev. J. C. Longanecker (1910-1919), Rev. C. A. Downing (1922-1930), Rev. Frank S. Edge (1932-1935), Rev. Merle L. Champion (1936-1937), Rev. Frank S. Edge (1938——).

## FIRST HUNGARIAN BAPTIST CHURCH HOMESTEAD

ORGANIZED 1907

Baptist work among the Hungarians in the Homestead vicinity was started by Mrs. Amelia K. Paulinyi and Mr. Nicholas Dulty. In 1906, regular worship services were conducted in a chapel in Rankin. This work later grew into the Rankin Christian Center. Financial assistance was given by the American Baptist Home Mission Society.

In 1907 the Hungarian work was transferred to Homestead where the First Hungarian Baptist Church of Homestead was organized, February 14, 1907—with forty-five members. The following year the congregation moved into the church building previously occupied by the First Baptist Church of Homestead, where it still conducts its worship. Missionary work has also been carried on in McKeesport and Canonsburg, resulting in the organization of a church in both communities.

Four members of the congregation have entered the Christian ministry. The church has furnished much leadership to the Hungarian work throughout the world. Miss Mary Meereis and Mrs. Amelia K.



Paulinyi were its missionaries over a long period of years.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. Frank Balogh (1906-1910), Rev. Stephen Groza (1911-1913), Rev. Louis Stumpf (1913-1915), Rev. Nicholas Papp (1916-1918), Rev. Arthur Stumpf (1919-1931), Rev. John Fetruzsan (1931-1933), Rev. Edwin L. Kautz (1933-1937), Rev. Nicholas Kovacs (1938——).

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, RIVERVIEW

ORGANIZED 1908

A small group of Baptist people residing in the Borough of Riverview assembled in the home of James Stacker October 31, 1908, and agreed to organize a Baptist church in the Borough. Following the meeting, approximately forty persons secured their church letters and soon thereafter organized the First Baptist Church of Riverview. Their place of meeting was the Borough school house, with Horace Edwards in charge.

In 1912 the members of the congregation dug the basement and laid the foundation of the present church edifice. Only the Bible school portion of the edifice was erected at that time, however. The church records indicate that John Todd was very active in the new building program.

On October 26, 1924, the corner-stone of the church sanctuary was laid with appropriate ceremonies. The week of August 12, 1925, was given over to the dedicatory services in connection with the completion of the new structure. Since that date the congregation has made use of the new building continuously. The present membership is sixty.

The following ministers and laymen have served the church during its thirty years of existence:

Rev. J. W. Moody (1909-1912), Rev. E. A. Drake (1912-1915), Rev. G. Adams (1915-1917), Rev. S. L. Printer (1917-1919), Rev. G. W. Scarberry (1919-1922), Rev. F. G. Sharpless (1923-1925), Rev. J. Wyke (1926-1928), Rev. William Arblaster (1928-1929), Rev. F. M. Quell (1929-1932), Mr. L. G. Simmonds (1935-1936), Mr. R. L. Miller (1936-1937) Mr. L. G. Simmonds (1938——).

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, ALIQUIPPA

ORGANIZED 1910

The First Baptist church of Aliquippa was organized July 14, 1910. It was the outcome of missionary work done in the community by Rev. H. C. Gleiss and Miss Lena Colvin. Twenty-three members constituted the original organization. A house-to-house visitation resulted in the establishment of a Bible school, which grew eventually into the present church.

The parsonage was purchased in 1919. The present Sunday school membership is two hundred; the church membership, three hundred and sixty-four. A full schedule of activities is being carried on at the present time.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. Benjamin Steinson (1910-1912), Rev. Joshua Wills (1913-1916), Rev. Leroy Hall (1916-1917), Rev. L. B. Ford (1917-1927), Rev. E. C. Poole (1927——).

## EMMANUEL SLOVAK BAPTIST CHURCH MONACA

ORGANIZED 1910

John Tomeik and Andrew Slabey, Sr., two Baptist laymen from abroad, settled in Pittsburgh to do missionary work among the Slovaks in 1900. On February 13, 1901, the Rev. H. C. Gleiss baptized John Beharka at the Temple Baptist Church, Pittsburgh—the first Slovak ever to be baptized in Pennsylvania. Several others were baptized at the same time.

Later in 1901, this small band of Slovaks obtained employment in the brickyard of James H. Welsh, of Monaca, who was also a Baptist. Services were conducted in the homes until 1903, when a small mission was established. A. P. Slabey, Jr., was the first candidate for baptism. He was baptized by the Rev. E. A. Finn at the Rochester church. The following year Matthew Majzlik and John Vongrey were baptized in the Ohio River at Monaca by the Rev. Mathias Steuscek.

Through the generosity of James H. Welsh, and financial assistance given by the Pittsburgh Baptist Association, a church edifice was erected and dedi-

cated in 1905. The church was officially organized November 8, 1910, with twenty charter members. The present church edifice was dedicated in 1914. Four members of the congregation have entered the Christian ministry; prominent among them being the Rev. Adam Strapon, who founded and is still in charge of The Baptist Home and Orphanage, Ceklis, Czechoslovakia, and Rev. A. P. Slabey, some time professor in the International Baptist Seminary, East Orange, New Jersey. The present membership is 23.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. Henry Ibser (1910-1911), Rev. Mathias Steuscek (1911-1912), Rev. Henry Ibser (1912-1914), Rev. Mathias Steuscek (1914-1918), Rev. Adam Strapon (1918-1921), Rev. August Meerries (1921-1922), Rev. Frank Cech (1924-1925), Rev. Stephen Herban (1925-1926), Rev. George Georgeoff (1927-1930), Rev. Paul E. Mlynar (1931-1933), Rev. Michael Krivosh (1933-1937).



**FIRST RUSSIAN BAPTIST CHURCH  
PITTSBURGH**

**ORGANIZED 1910**

Missionary work among the Russian people of Pittsburgh was started by the Union Baptist

Church, South Side, Pittsburgh, in 1910, when twenty-four of them were organized as a branch of the Union church. Services were conducted at 2013 Fifth Avenue, in the heart of the Russian settlement. They called this place of worship "The Emanuel House." Later, services were conducted at 2123 Fifth Avenue, where Miss Elizabeth Mathews, of the Bethel Baptist Church, Carriek, assisted in organizing a Bible school.

The years following 1919 witnessed the scattering of the Russian people to other communities. Accordingly, the congregation moved to the South Side district, and in 1924 mission stations were established at Lyndora, Canonsburg, Albion, Smithfield, and Elm Grove, West Virginia. At the present time the mission church at Erie has thirty members, the church at Albion ten, the church at Meadowland ten, and the church at Canonsburg twenty members. These churches are actually under the watch-care of the pastor of the Pittsburgh Russian congregation and are visited periodically by him.

The Pittsburgh Russian church has an active Sunday school, a Young People's Society, World Wide Guild, Vacation Church School, and Children's World Crusade organization. Services are held in the building previously occupied by the Union Baptist Church, South Side, Pittsburgh. The present membership is fifty-five.

The following ministers have served the church:



Rev. Michael Levine (1910-1914), Rev. Paul Ambrosimoff (1914-1917), Rev. Paul Kolesnikoff (1918-1919), Rev. Alex Petroff (1920), Rev. P. J. Vince (1923-1926), Rev. J. Perozok (1926-1927), Rev. Alex Beliasov (1928——).

## BEULAH BAPTIST CHURCH WEST ELIZABETH

ORGANIZED 1911

The Beulah Baptist Church, West Elizabeth, had its origin in a series of cottage prayer meetings conducted by five local missionaries. Following a revival meeting conducted by the Rev. C. A. Rockwell, the Beulah Baptist Mission was organized, March 1, 1911.

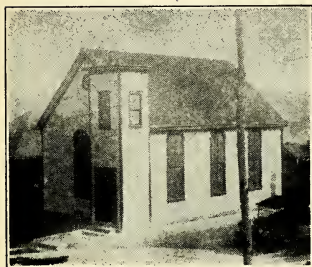
Frequent series of revival meetings have been conducted by various ministers. The membership has grown slowly. The pastor's salary in 1921 was only six dollars a week. The church was received into the Pittsburgh Baptist Association January 27, 1922.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. C. A. Rockwell (1910-1911), Rev. E. H. Leizure (1911-1912), Rev. O. M. McCracken (1912-1914), Rev. J. Hughes (1914), Rev. H. Bailey (1918-1919), Rev. J. H. Hanson (1919-1922), Rev. Charles F. Ransbottom (1923-1925), Rev. S. M. Smith (1925-1926), Rev. M. L. Champion (1926——). The present membership is 137.

## EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, DONORA

### ORGANIZED 1911



Rev. H. H. Hallowell, pastor of the Monessen Baptist Church, conducted the first Baptist services in Donora in February, 1903. By the following year approximately fifty persons became sufficiently interested to organize a Baptist church—August 14, 1904. The group met in a grove of oak trees for the organization meeting. After several years the church went the way of all disbanded churches.

In 1911 through the efforts of Rev. H. C. Gleiss, services were resumed in a local hall. During the summer months a tent was erected and services were conducted by a theological student. John Lake also conducted a Vacation Church School. In a short while there was sufficient interest to reorganize the church, with thirty charter members.

The church became a member of the Pittsburgh

Baptist Association, April 8, 1912. A lot was purchased and a chapel erected, in 1915. The present membership is 114.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. W. G. Carl, Rev. E. G. Stanley, Rev. S. J. Cunnings, Rev. L. A. Scherning, Rev. J. C. Longanecker, Rev. S. M. Smith, Rev. F. W. Rawlings, Rev. Charles A. Embrey, Rev. John A. Erbe.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, AMBRIDGE

ORGANIZED 1912

In 1874, a Sunday school was organized at Fair Oaks by Nathaniel Macrum, Edwin A. Macrum, J. M. Stoner and Robert E. Rogers. Three years later, April 22, 1877, the Fair Oaks Baptist church was organized, with Rev. J. B. Mulford as pastor. A beautiful stone chapel was erected. For the next ten years the church was served for brief periods by Rev. R. S. Sayre, Rev. J. W. Plannett, Rev. J. M. Scott and Rev. R. W. Van Kirk. By the year 1890, the struggling church seemed to be a hopeless failure.

After the American Bridge Company erected a large plant near Economy, bringing an increase of population to the community, the Fair Oaks church was reorganized in 1905. Rev. H. B. Rankin became pastor and served until 1908. Rev. G. L. Hoover became pastor in 1908 and served until 1910, when Rev. Benjamin Stinson became pastor—serving for one year.

In view of the fact that Ambridge had a rapid increase in population, services were started in the Ambridge Borough Hall, where, in 1912, the First

Baptist Church of Ambridge was organized. Services were conducted in the Fair Oaks church, however, until 1915, when they were resumed in a store room on Charles Street, Ambridge. The present building was erected on the corner of Eleventh Street and Maplewood Avenue in 1916. Due to a misunderstanding among the members, a group withdrew from the church in 1928, and formed the First Christian Church, Ambridge. The present membership of the Baptist church is 134.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. H. Tupper (1913), Rev. Herbert Agate (1916), Rev. M. Hancock (1916), Rev. J. Cummins (1916), Rev. J. S. Stone (1917-1918), Rev. A. A. Blake (1919-1922), Rev. William H. Cutler (1922-1927), Rev. W. V. Bacon (1927-1929), Rev. W. Mainwaring (1931-1932), Rev. E. R. Sidler (1933-1936), Rev. Theodore L. Rich (1936—).

## FIRST HUNGARIAN BAPTIST CHURCH McKEESPORT

ORGANIZED 1912



Amelia K. Paulinyi

The Hungarian Baptist work in McKeesport was started by the Rev. and Mrs. Michael Dulty, who carried on missionary work in the homes of the people, conducted services on the street corners, and distributed Bibles and religious tracts. They had been baptized into the Baptist faith at the First Hungarian Baptist church, Homestead.

The second missionary to carry on this work was William Balla, who conducted public services in a rented store room. Soon the group had grown to nineteen. Accordingly, under the direction of the Rev. H. C. Gleiss, the church was officially organized, June 1, 1912.

Mrs. Amelia Paulinyi and Maria Meeries have served the church as missionaries. Three pastors have been ordained by the church. The congrega-

tion has carried on its work through an active Sunday school, women's societies, sewing-schools, summer schools, bands and fine choirs. Missionary work has also been done in Duquesne, Rankin and Irwin. The present membership is sixty.

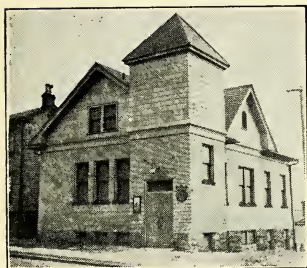
The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. Louis Stumpf (1912-1913), Rev. Arthur Stumpf (1914-1918), Rev. Michael Biro (1918-1920), Rev. Stephen Bertalen (1925-1931), Rev. William Tresansky (1931-1932), Rev. E. L. Kautz (1932-1936), Rev. Stephan Revak (1939——).



## COBDEN STREET BAPTIST CHURCH PITTSBURGH

ORGANIZED 1913



The Cobden Street Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, started as a mission of the Union Baptist Church, South Side, Pittsburgh. • For several years prior to the organization of the church (January 1, 1913), a Sunday school

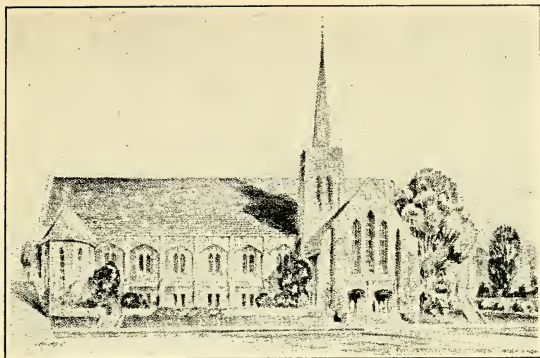
was conducted by members of the Union church residing in the Cobden Street Hill section of the city.

The ministers who have served the church are as follows:

Rev. J. M. Lloyd (1913), Rev. W. J. John (1913-1915), Rev. George Kirshner (1915-1916), Rev. J. H. Langdon (1917-1918), Rev. T. W. Henry (1919-1925), Rev. Frank Kelly (1925-1927), Rev. R. E. Williams (1928-1932), and, since 1935, Rev. W. J. Clawson.

J. N. Tate, a member of the congregation, has rendered much service in keeping the doors of the church open during those periods when the church was without a pastor.

Within the past several years the church has been redecorated, a new furnace has been installed, new hymnals have been purchased, a new carpet laid, and many general repairs made. The present membership is seventy-seven.



## MOUNT LEBANON BAPTIST CHURCH DORMONT

ORGANIZED 1915

A series of cottage prayer meetings conducted by the Rev. John Churney in 1907 marks the beginning of Baptist work in the Mount Lebanon hills. The first attempts to organize a Sunday school met with failure. But on May 8, 1908, twenty-two persons assembled in the home of W. H. Jenkins to confer with the Rev. H. C. Gleiss, executive secretary of the Pittsburgh and Allegheny Baptist Union. At this meeting arrangements were made to hold services in the Mount Lebanon Country Club on Sunday afternoons. It was also agreed that this

work should be recognized as a mission of the Fourth Avenue Baptist Church, Pittsburgh. Such an arrangement was consummated July 5, 1908. Thirty persons took communion February 14, 1909.

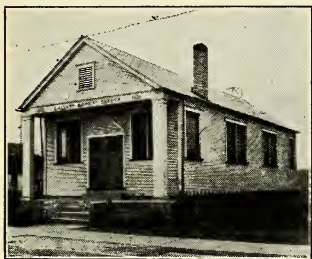
Upon the removal of the Fourth Avenue Baptist Church to the Oakland district, it was decided to provide a suitable building for its mission in Dormont. Accordingly, ground was broken, June 5, 1911, for the new edifice on Alabama Avenue. The dedicatory services took place May 12, 1912.

At a congregational meeting held March 28, 1915, a resolution was adopted requesting the First Baptist Church (formerly the Fourth Avenue), to take whatever action was necessary in establishing the Mount Lebanon church as an independent organization. Accordingly, on May 26, 1915, the First Baptist Church of Pittsburgh dismissed 162 members to form an independent Baptist church in Dormont. In pursuance of this action, the Mount Lebanon Baptist Church, Dormont, was organized May 27, 1915, with 168 charter members. The second church edifice was dedicated in 1930. The present membership is 1,105.

The following ministers have served the church: Rev. Charles H. Schieck (1908-1910), Rev. Walter M. Corll (1911-1917), Rev. Harry E. Owings (1917-1920), Rev. A. F. Purkiss (1921-1923), Rev. R. G. Pierson (1923-1927), Rev. Edward Bleakney (1928-1937), and Rev. Albert H. Gage (1937——).

## CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH BRACKENRIDGE

ORGANIZED 1922



The Calvary Baptist Church, Brackenridge, was organized February 2, 1922. The first services were conducted in the Tarentum Y. M. C. A. auditorium. Later the congregation moved to the Palace Theatre, Tarentum. At a still

later date the services were held in the rooms of the Tarentum Chamber of Commerce. Then the congregation moved to the Tarentum Christian church. Since May 8, 1928, services have been conducted in the present chapel on Ninth Avenue, Brackenridge.

The following ministers have served the church:

Rev. H. W. Birch (1922-1930), Rev. G. Blair Hemans (1931-1933), Rev. L. S. Hoyle (1935——). The present membership is 148.



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